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CHERNYSHEV VIEWS PERSHING WARHEADS ISSUE

LD191728 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 19 TASS -- TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev comments:

At Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva, where thanks to the Soviet initiatives all conditions were created for finalizing the elaboration of an agreement on a "double global zero" for intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, the United States with support of its closest allies gets on with impeding the movement forward.

The issue of the U.S. nuclear warheads for the West German "Pershing-1A" missiles has been chosen this time as the key barrier. What is behind such a nonconstructive stand by Washington?

First, the "warheads problem" is regarded by definite quarters in the NATO countries, first and foremost in the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany, as the last means to block an agreement on abolishing nuclear weapons, the first one in history. The "zero option" has never been the goal of those quarters. It was assigned the role of a propaganda cover-up and it alone for building up U.S. nuclear arsenals in Europe.

Western experts write that in the current circumstances it is enough for the opponents of the talks to delay then negotiations for several months only and everything will hang in mid-air as there will appear to be no time to push an agreement through Congress before the presidential elections in the United States.

Second, if contrary to counteraction, an agreement is signed, Washington would like to retain its nuclear warheads for 72 shorter-range missiles under the pretext of satisfying the needs of the ally in the bloc. In Washington they do not conceal their intention to circumvent the future agreement with the aid of West Germany, to remain in actual fact the sole possessor of shorter-range nuclear missile weapons.

Third, Washington and Bonn's designs are linked not only with retaining the existing nuclear warheads for West German missiles. They envisage what is considerably more, that is retaining the opportunity to modernize or replace these systems with more advanced ones. Plans have already been devised at the West German Defence Ministry to replace "Pershing 1-A" with new "Pershing-1B" systems which are essentially a one-stage variant of intermediate-range missiles.

This means the United States and West Germany make attempts to secure a loophole for Bundeswehr's "re-armament" with more advanced shoter-range missiles which are easily and speedily converted into medium-range missiles.

Fourth, the "long-term" goal pursued by Washington and some of its allies is to avoid an "unfavourable precedent" for future talks on reducing tactical nuclear weapons.

The point is that the NATO countries' armed forces have a whole number of systems of the tactical purpose (missiles, aircraft, artillery facilities, etc.), nuclear munitions for which belong to the United States.

For instance, according to the figures of U.S. specialists, the U.S. arsenal holds 380 missile warheads (for "Lance" missiles), 300 nuclear bombs, 400 shells for 203.2-mm nuclear artillery, 150 shells for 155-mm nuclear artillery, and 50 depth-charges, which are destined for these West European systems of the so-called double command.

So, all this arsenal is sought to be "protected" against destruction even in case an agreement on reducing tactical nuclear weapons is reached in the future between the USSR and the United States. The "precedent" of dismantling nuclear warheads for the West German "Pershing-1A" missiles would not allow the United States, under the cover-up of the thesis of the existing character of cooperation with the allies, to keep its nuclear presence in Europe.

All these calculations have only one purpose -- to attain unilateral advantage at the negotiating table. It is time they in Washington, Bonn and some other capitals of the NATO countries realize all the importance of the political moment, perceive that the world public will not forgive those who seek to hamper using the unique chance for opening in practice the way towards removing the nuclear threat to mankind.

U.S. CLAIMS ON SALT II VIOLATIONS REJECTED

PM191138 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Aug 87 First Edition p 3

[Article by Colonel V. Nazarenko; candidate of military science: "Washington's Diversionary Maneuvers. Soviet SS-24 Missiles: Truth and Fabrications"]

[Text] The prospect of concluding a Soviet-U.S. agreement on eliminating two classes of nuclear missile systems (medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles) and their nuclear warheads on a global scale is emerging ever more clearly. However, the closer the possibility of such an agreement, the more activity is displayed by its opponents, of whom there are many in the West, especially across the sea. Now they have decided to start a new campaign to discredit the USSR, trying to prove that you cannot negotiate with the Soviet Union because it is always violating the commitments it has made.

And that is what they did. They started declaring loudly that the Soviet Union, by means of deploying its new SS-24 ICBM's and SLBM's, has exceeded the limitations established by the 1979 SALT II treaty. These are the slanderous fabrications that are heard increasingly frequently in speeches by certain high-ranking Western military figures and politicians.

The Soviet Union makes no secret of the fact that it is modernizing its strategic offensive arms: Obsolete stationary silo-based launchers are being replaced with mobile ones. The Soviet SS-24 is a new type of ICBM whose creation is permitted by the SALT II treaty. Its deployment is taking place within the limits permitted by the treaty. Let us recall that the USSR is permitted 820 ICBM launchers equipped with multiple reentry vehicles (MRV's). The number of missiles of this class presently in existence does not exceed this limit. The Soviet Union, as is known, may have a total of 1,200 ICBM and SLBM launchers with MRV's. At present this total is lower.

Western press commentaries note that the main aim of the new Soviet missile systems adoption is to ensure the invulnerability of the USSR's strategic forces in the event of a surprise strike by the enemy. Here it is particularly emphasized that the concept of mobility of ICBM's is seen, even by a number of military theorists, as a stabilizing factor, robbing the other side of the hope for success in a first, "disarming" strike.

Indeed, replacing stationary ICBM's with mobile ones is above all intended to increase the survivability of the Soviet retaliatory strike forces. Their destruction by a first strike is made substantially more difficult or becomes entirely impossible. This therefore promotes the strengthening of strategic stability.

An analysis of Western publications shows that in the most conservative circles, especially among the U.S. military-political leadership, an active quest is under way for methods fo using the deployment of SS-24 ICBM's to accuse the USSR of actions complicating Soviet-U.S. talks on eliminating medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, and strategic arms reduction, as well as whipping up the arms race. It is thus pointed out, citing certain intelligence sources, that the USSR has supposedly already secretly deployed "an unspecified number of SS-24 missiles" in numerous tunnels and camouflaged railfroad installations. "Facts" are even cited to the effect that the launchers on railroad flatcars for the new Soviet missiles have the technical potential for rapid reloading and therefore possess significantly greater combat capabilities than was formerly supposed.

Let us say frankly state that the assertions by various kinds of "specialists" who have filled the Western mass media with "facts" concerning the growing Soviet missile threat are not original. A year ago the White House, declaring its refusal to comply with the SALT II treaty in the future, made a clumsy attempt to make it appear the Soviet Union had already violated that treaty by introducing its new ICBM's into the fighting strength. The Administration's purpose was clear. At that time the United States had already begun work on creating a second new ICBM, the Midgetman, that incidentally, did not in any way fit into the SALT II treaty framework. This is because the first new ICBM, the MX, had already been introduced into the fighting strength of the U.S. strategic forces. The quota was exhausted, so the latest new ICBM was "not written in" to the treaty provisions. Preparing the ground for renouncing commitments to comply with the accord in the sphere of strategic offensive arms limitation, Washington attempted to "shift the blame" to the Soviet Union. However, as is known, nothing came of this.

The unpredictability of the subterfuges and diversionary maneuvers by Washington and its most loyal NATO partners cannot but cause concern. Today they have begun a new propaganda offensive with a view to discrediting the Soviet proposals on the "global double zero." Their idle fabrications have nothing to do with reality. The Soviet Union conscientiously fulfills all its international commitments, including those under the SALT II treaty. Incidentally, it was not the USSR but the United States that, back in May 1986, renounced compliance with the limitations the SALT II treaty and in November of that year exceeded the limits set by it. Now the Americans are trying to confuse the issue by releasing all kinds of "canards."

Yes, Washington knows how to ignore the facts; many examples of this could be cited. For instance, the USSR's principled stand on the verification problem is known there. The Soviet side favors verification means ensuring absolute confidence that armaments are indeed being eliminated, and that commitments regarding the remaining arms and the permitted military activity are observed and bans are not circumvented. Not in words, but in deeds. Therefore, the Soviet Union has proposed a whole range of forms and means of verification. One wonders: Who is it who is still "considering" and "thinking about" adopting these as guidance within the framework of the nearly drawn-up agreement on medium-range and operational and tactical missiles? It is necessary to stop shifting the blame and deliberately fanning the smoldering coals of confrontation.

PRAVDA ON U.S. 'DISINFORMATION' OVER 2 AUG N-TEST

PM191101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Aug 87 Second Edition p 5

[A. Lyutyy "International Notes": "Who It Profits"]

[Text] In his recent speech at the Geneva disarmament conference, USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze once again focused the world community's attention on the need for the speediest prohibition of nuclear tests. The Soviet Union's position was set forth clearly and unambiguously -- we advocate that nuclear tests recede into the realm of history.

However, a categorical "no" has once again been heard from Washington. This time, however, to ensure that it did not appear just too dissonant against international public opinion, the State Department and certain U.S. mass media have mounted and in recent days have kept up a disinformation campaign alleging that the USSR is violating provisions of the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space, and Under Water. It is claimed that the Soviet Union's carrying out a nuclear explosion on Novaya Zemlya Island on 2 August 1987 was accompanied by a discharge of radioactive substances beyond Soviet territory, resulting in increased redioactivity in Scandinavian countries.

A recently published TASS report provided the necessary explanations. At a special briefing in the USSR Foreign Ministry press center, Soviet and foreign journalists received additional information from competent specialists. This information attests that there was absolutely no violation of the Moscow treaty. That document, and particularly Article I, point B, prohibit the carrying out of nuclear tests not only in the atmosphere, in outer space, and under water, but also in any other environment if such tests cause radioactive fallout to occur outside the state.

But the small quantity of gaseous products that was discharged into the atmosphere following the 2 August test -- not that this is an exceptional case, for such a discharge is observed even from very deep underground explosions -- did not result in the formation of radioactive fallout and, thus, did not constitute a violation of the Moscow treaty.

Moreover, the special aircraft that flew along the borders with Scandinavia from 2 through 7 August, in accordance with the rigid verification that we have established, took measurements and recorded absolutely no increase in radioactivity. However, even if you assume that there really was an insignificant increase in background radiation in a number of Scandinavian countries -- an increase which, as these countries themselves admit, poses absolutely no danger to humans -- why must it be ascribed precisely to the Soviet Union? Have there not been accidents at a number of nuclear power stations in West Europe recently? Such an accident occurred in Britain, for example, and at practically the same time as there was talk of increased radioactivity in Scandinavia. Or, following Chernobyl, have people in Western countries decided to ascribe any increase in radioactivity in the Northern Hemisphere to the USSR? If this is so, at the time of the 2 August explosion the wind was blowing not westward but east and south.

Of course, it is a matter not of the wind and weather but of those who make the political weather in Washington today. It is far more convenient for them to make an unsubstantiated accusation against the USSR than to take a step forward on the way to resolving a cardinal problem for mankind -- banning nuclear tests. It is logical to ask the U.S. side: If the United States is so alarmed at the appearance of even insignificant quantities of radioactive products in various parts of the world, would it not be better to dispel this alarm by completely prohibiting nuclear tests, thus ruling out the likelihood of radioactive substances' spread in the atmosphere? If Washington shows such concern in its desire to protect our environment against all pollution, why then does it not respond to the proposal submitted by the USSR at the Geneva disarmament conference to establish an international system of global verification of radiation safety using space lines of communication? With the help of this system, it would be possible not only to enhance the efficiency of verifying the observance of a nuclear test ban, when such a ban is introduced, but also to trace the degree of pollution of the atmosphere, the soil, and underground and sea waters on a global and a regional scale.

Why do these proposals not elicit reciprocal actions on the Potomac? The answer is clear. Washington did not and does not want to stop nuclear tests, and it covers up its reluctance with disinformation campaigns like the last one. And yet the preamble to the Moscow treaty states that the signatory countries will seek to end all nuclear tests for all time. The United States demonstrated its attitude to that pledge at the time of the Soviet moratorium. We gave up waiting for reciprocal quiet on the U.S. test sites. Our moratorium was wrecked, and the United States was to blame for that. But we reaffirm that we are ready to begin talks without delay on banning nuclear tests. To this end the Soviet side, in coauthorship with other socialist countries, submitted the document "Basic Provisions of a Treaty on the Total Prohibition of Nuclear Weapon Tests" for examination by the disarmament conference. The ball is in the U.S. court, as the saying goes.

TEXT OF GORBACHEV MESSAGE TO RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

LD201028 Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 20 TASS -- Follows the full text of the message of greetings from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the international research organization "World Laboratory":

I welcome the prominent scientists, who united under the aegis of the "World Laboratory" for the joint implementation of peaceful research programmes.

Half a year ago we participated jointly with many of you in the international forum "For a nuclear free world, for the survival of humanity."

We are unanimous in the awareness of both the enormous potentialities of world science and the responsibilities of scientists for the destinies of the world, for our civilization's future.

The "World Laboratory" has proclaimed as the basis of its activity the noble ideals of cooperation in science and technology for carrying out open scientific research, implementing projects in the field of science, technology and medicine towards the urgent needs of the peoples in all regions of the world.

I am convinced of the great scientific and moral-political significance of the implementation of your plans and projects since it is only in combination with high moral culture that science is capable of making a worthy contribution to resolving the most acute problems facing the world on the threshold of the third millennium, above all the problems of trust, security, and survival of humanity.

The Soviet Union consistently proceeds from the fact that the present-day world, which is getting increasingly inter-related and mutually dependent, should be freed at any cost from the heavy burden of nuclear weapons. The broad development of international cooperation with peaceful and creative aims is a real alternative to the lethal military programmes, an important factor for firmly establishing openness and mutual understanding in the life of societies. I hope that the opening last February of a branch of the "World Laboratory" in the USSR will contribute towards broadening the practical potentialities of your organization and successfully implementing its noble designs.

[signed] M. Gorbachev

WESTERN FEARS OF NEW REFORMS DISCUSSED

PM141501 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 11 Aug 87 p 1

[TASS Political Observer Yuriy Kornilov article under the rubric "Topical Theme": "New Trends and Old Dogmas. Soviet Restructuring Through Western 'Sovietologists' Distorting Mirror"]

[Text] U.S. propaganda once again -- for the umpteenth time -- is scaring the man in the street with the specter of the "Soviet military threat."

Where has this mythical "threat" been found this time -- on the plains of Europe, in the mountains of Asia, in the jungles of Africa? No. The "threat" in question has been found by Washington's extra-vigilant "Russia specialists" -- incredible, but true! -- in... Soviet restructuring, in the transformations that are being implemented in our economy. "Certain U.S. Sovietologists maintain that Gorbachev's success is not in the United States' interests since a strong Soviet economy will increase the aggressiveness of Soviet foreign policy," the LOS ANGELES TIMES writes in an article "On New Trends in the USSR." "'If the reforms in the USSR make it possible to raise labor productivity and lead to a rise in prosperity, the Soviet Union,' they state, 'will be able to step up the arms race...'"

The profoundly peaceful nature of Soviet restructuring, which is entirely aimed at constructive and not destructive military purposes, is so obvious that such claims have no need of denials. However, the question arises: For what purpose are U.S. "Sovietologists" trying to distort so crudely the essence and aims of restructuring in the USSR, and why have they found it necessary to disguise it in battle dress? The answer must be sought in the genuine content of the Soviet transformations that, being implemented under the slogan "More socialism, more democracy!" are aimed at giving our system the most modern forms of social organization, involving Soviet people as broadly as possible in public life, and opening up the way to heights of economic and scientific and technical progress for the country. Almost 70 years ago V.I. Lenin stressed the tremendous importance [as published] that the Soviet country exerts on the development of the world revolutionary process through its economic activity. And today the enemies of socialism are worried above all else by the fact that the USSR's comprehensive renewal and its economic takeoff will mean -- and already do mean -- a sharp increase in the prestige of Soviet power, an increase in the international influence of socialist ideas, and the consolidation of the positions of forces of peace and progress.

The suspicious and even hostile attitude of certain Western circles to Soviet restructuring has not only a political and ideological aspect but also a pronounced economic aspect. Analyzing the processes now under way in the USSR, many serious Western experts and economists are coming to the conclusion that as a result of these processes the Soviet Union, whose economy is now being tested for efficiency, receptiveness to advanced technologies, and the ability to produce first-class output and stand up to any competition in world markets, may become a serious rival to the Western powers. "Gorbachev's impressive program is a serious challenge to the United States," the U.S. JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND COMMERICAL notes in this connection. "A transformed Soviet Union will be a far more dangerous rival than a sleeping giant," the UK's DAILY TELEGRAPH proclaims. And authoritative mouthpieces of U.S. "big business" for example, say, FORBES MAGAZINE, the journal belonging to Forbes, the millionaire, or MOTOR INDUSTRY WEEK, the bulletin published in Detroit, the U.S. "automobile capital," analyzing the progress and the prospects for Soviet restructuring, are today warning U.S. business cirlces of the need to prepare in earnest for an increase in competition from the USSR. All right, the forecasts are realistic and the warnings well-founded. However, it is precisely prospects of this kind which to all appearances, do not suit those circles in the United States that, considering almost the whole planet to be a "sphere of U.S. vital interests," would like to lord it not only in politics but also in international trade and economic matters. These circles are gambling not on developing equal, mutually advantageous cooperation, but on economic diktat and "smashing" competitors. These circles are, to all appearances, quite pleased with the present situation in which the USSR's share -- that of a mighty socialist power possessing gigantic economic and human resources -- of the overall volume of world trade does not exceed 4.5 percent, and the structure of Soviet imports and exports is, to put it mildly, archaic (let us recall in this connection that raw materials make up almost 80 percent of our exports).

Some people in the West, it seems, would very much like many sectors of the Soviet economy to continue remaining in a stagnated condition. It seems they would also like the USSR to appeal again and again to its rich Western uncle both for many types of modern equipment and for grain, meat, and other commodities and products that we can perfectly well -- and in abundance -- produce for ourselves domestically, instead of acquiring them in exchange for our oil and other very valuable and -- by the way -- irreplaceable fuel and energy resources and other raw materials. Surely the reason why U.S. "Sovietologists" and those who stand behind them are attacking Soviet restructuring is that it does not promise the West such prospects?

Other aspects of the Soviet transformation evoking increasing alarm in the camp of socialism's enemies are the processes of democratization and glasnost that are vigorously unfolding in the nation and, filling all levels of our social edifice, are knocking established stereotypes about the "closed" and "undemocratic" Soviet society out of our ideological opponent's hands. Realizing that frontal attacks on democratization in the USSR will not produce dividends, U.S. and other "Russian specialists" are feverishly searching for "roundabout approaches" and particularly sophisticated forms and methods to, as the UK's MORNING STAR expressed it so aptly, "smash the propaganda signficance of the process in question."

Yes, people in the West do acknowledge the presence of democratization in the Soviet Union. However, while acknowledging this obvious fact, they immediately begin to backpedal, asserting that although the measures taken in the USSR to broaden glasnost can also be regarded as the "boldest steps since Lenin's time," these steps are limited and "truncated" by Western standards and "do not slacken Communist Party control over the processes under way in the country" (NBC TV, United States). At the same time, they put forward the "thesis" that the broadening of glasnost is supposedly a "shock for the Soviet population" (BBC) and even the postulate that the "further development of political glasnost will lead to the growth of social tension and may call into question the survival of the socialist system itself!" (Japanese radio). That's right! No less!

Naturally the question arises: Since when have the outside observers begun to worry so much that changes under way in the USSR might inflict some "damage" on the socialist system? Of course, they do not care at all about socialism but are pursuing a quite different, dual goal: on one hand to neutralize the positive influence that the process of democratization and glasnost is having on Western public opinion, and on the other to provoke us into stopping glasnost and the process of democratization, thus thrusting the Soviet Union backwards and retarding the transformations which have now begun, since it is obvious that these transformations cannot be carried out without democracy and glasnost.

People may say: Yes, of course, "Sovietologists'" attempts to uncover in Soviet restructuring a "military threat" to the West are a provocation and a lie, but the Western press does not always resort to such cock-and-bull stories. These same "Sovietologists" used to write about real failures in the Soviet economy, about stagnation in public life. However, in the case in question, it is not so much individual facts per se that are of primary importance as the interpretation of these facts and the attitude to them. But whereas the friends of socialism were confident that difficulties in Soviet economy's development were generated not by the socialist system but, on the contrary, by deviations from it and distortions of its principles, our enemies endeavored to use the data concerning the USSR's lag to discredit the very foundations of the socialist system.

Something similar is happening today. The revolutionary transformations in Soviet society -- and this was directly stated at the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum -- have brought to the forefront the contradiction between demands for renewal, creativity, and constructive intitiative, and conservatism, inertia, and mercenary interests. Restructuring is coming up against great difficulties, but how varied are the West's reactions to this fact! At a time when our friends. the democratic public, noting the determination of healthy forces and working people to steadfastly implement the outlined course, are expressing confidence that opposition to the reforms will be overcome, "Sovietologists" like those whose works are quoted by the LOS ANGELES TIMES seemingly "fail to notice" the mass support for the reforms but instead insistently affirm with a zeal worthy of some better use that there is "powerful opposition" to restructuring. This is precisely the spirit of numerous "writings" in the bourgeois press which ostensibly discuss restructuring but place the main stress not on the essence of the plans outlined by the party, not on the fact that reason and common sense are winning position after position in the USSR, but on discussions of the "omnipotence of the Soviet bureaucratic machine!" (THE NEW YORK TIMES), "the impossibility of smashing the wall of bureaucracy" (THE WASHINGTON TIMES), "the unlimited power of the nomenklatura" (LE MONDE), and so on and so forth.

I think that such pieces must be regarded as a sophisticated attempt to cast doubt on the very success of the reforms and the new beneficial political and ideological phenomena in the life of socialist society by deliberately absolutizing the difficulties of our ideological and political development. It is difficult to evade the impression that some of these pieces are designed to "encourage" the opponents of restructuring by suggesting to them the thesis of their imaginary invulnerability. In this context it seems that there are grounds for speaking about a kind of objective convergence ofthe interests and positions of socialisms enemies in the West and those bureaucratic, conservative elements in our country that are clinging to dogmas nullified by life and see in restructuring in a threat to their well-being.

In conclusion, let us return to the point where we began. When citing the "Sovietologists'" statements mentioned above concerning the "military threat" that restructuring in the USSR supposedly poses, the LOS ANGELES TIMES did not refrain from expressing its own opinion on these findings. "Gorbachev's plan demands the eradication of survivals of Stalinism, and this entails not only the restructuring of the Soviet economy, but also the end of the 'cold war' and the arms race," the newspaper writes. "If the aims put forward by Gorbachev are achieved, the fears of those Americans who do not wish him to succeed will be meaningless." What is true is true. The process of renewal in the USSR is continuing and growing, and however hard the enemies of socialism try, they are not and will not be able to prevent the words "restructuring" and "glasnost" from being seen by more and more millions of people as synonyms for the words "progress" and "peace."

U.S. SENATE DELEGATION CONTINUES MOSCOW VISIT

Received by Demichev, Yeltsin

PM200930 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[Text] Petr Demichev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received the U.S. Senate delegation led by Senator Daniel Moynihan in the Kremlin today.

During the conversation, there was an exchange of views on matters concerning bilateral relations as well as on a number of topical international issues.

Petr Demichev pointed out that the development of businesslike and constructive contacts between the two great powers not only met their peoples' national interests but would also contribute to easing tensions and to stabilizing the international situation.

He stated that the Soviet side was interested in the development of trade, economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation with the United States.

This cooperation should rest on the foundation of trust and mutual benefit, he added.

Daniel Moynihan and other members of the delegation admitted the fact that much in the present-day world depended on relationships between the United States and the Soviet Union.

They declared for continuing and expanding the two countries' dialogue, and for a search for ways to resolve disputes by means of talks.

The two sides were unanimous in recognising the historic importance of concluding an agreement on eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe.

They considered it necessary to conduct talks on reducing strategic offensive arms, nuclear weapons, and other types of weapons.

P.N. Demichev answered numerous questions from the senators on the course of the restructuring of Soviet society's socioeconomic life.

The senators expressed the hope that the delegation's visit will promote the further widening of traditional contacts between the U.S. Congress and the USSR Supreme Soviet, and contribute to the deepening of mutual understanding.

On the same day the U.S. Senate delegation was received by Boris Yeltsin, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Political Bureau first secretary of the Moscow gorkom, and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The guests were informed about the wide range of measures being taken within the framework of the current reorganization process to accelerate the rate of the capital's socioeconomic and cultural development, and about concrete steps to broaden openness and to further deepen socialist democracy. Detailed answers were given to questions from the senators, who inquired about various aspects of the Muscovites' life and the essence, nature, and international aspect of the current transformation processes.

Some international issues as well as matters concerning Soviet-U.S. relations were touched upon during the conversation, which was held in a businesslike and frank atmosphere.

Speaking of the Soviet Union's latest foreign policy initiatives, Boris Yeltsin emphasized that they were predetermined by the very nature of Soviet society and by its goal of ensuring a durable, nuclear-free world and security for all peoples.

Pointing out the growing dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States in humanitarian fields in particular, the sides expressed the view that efforts should be intensified in the search for ways for mutual understanding and cooperation in other fields as well.

J.F. Matlock, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversations.

Senators Hold News Conference

LD200914 Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 20 TASS -- Addressing a news conference in Moscow today, Sen. Daniel Moynihan (Dem. New York) who heads a Senate delegation currently visiting the U.S.S.R., said that the senators were satisfied with the results of the visit.

He added that the group had been impressed by the spirit of glasnost, or openness, reigning in the Soviet Union, especially in the course of a protracted dialogue on numerous issues.

Senators Paul Sarbanes (Dem. -- Maryland) and Terry Sanford (Dem. -- North Carolina) subscribed to Sen. Moynihan's words.

The American senators said it was important to develop Soviet-American relations on which must depended in the present-day world. They advocated a continuing and expanded dialogue between the two countries and a search for a negotiated settlement of disputes.

It was stressed that the conclusion of an agreement on the abolition of medium-range missiles in Europe would be an event of historic importance.

Noting that the dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States was expanding, especially in the humanitarian fields, the senators expressed the view that efforts should be intensified in the search for mutual understanding and cooperation in other spheres.

Sen. Moynihan did not rule out the possibility that Congress would revoke the Jackson-Vanik Amendment limiting trade with the Soviet Union. At the same time he made the issue dependent on the number of persons of Jewish nationality leaving the U.S.S.R.

Thus, the senator deems it possible to link the two issues -- international trade and departures from the Soviet Union, whereas the latter is the Soviet Union's exclusively internal matter.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS PRESIDENT'S BERLIN WALL STATEMENT

PM191041 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Political Observer Stanislav Kondrashov commentary: "Contrast"]

[Text] World leaders do not by any means always synchronize their speeches, but chance coincidences cannot be excluded, and these shed additional bright light on the contrasts in various countries' politics. Such was the case at the end of last week.

On Friday [7 August], after meeting with a group of Russian language teachers from the United States, M.S. Gorbachev spoke about the Soviet people's respectful attitude toward Americans, about the importance of mutual understanding between the two peoples, and also about the accumulated barriers of misconceptions and about "where to take a large bulldozer to remove all these barriers."

But on Saturday, just a few hours later (particularly if you take into account the time difference between Moscow and Washington), President Reagan used the bulldozer of his own weekly radio broadcast to the American people not to remove obstructions but to pile them up. He chose for his theme the "Berlin Wall" and the Soviet policy of glasnost. Here is just one small part of his speech, demonstrating the pitch of the President's eloquence: "There is no other place on earth where there is a more striking contrast between the prison of communism and the spirit of freedom alive in all mankind."

Thus Moscow, while fully understanding the difficulties of Soviet-U.S. dialogue, is ready to cooperate with any administration in Washington that the U.S. people elect. This readiness stems from the fact that in our time, in our nuclear age, we are left with no other choice. Washington also understands the nature of this tough choice, yet it nevertheless cannot resist its anticommunist impulses either. These are no mere impulses, no mere set of opinions, but a policy that impedes the normalization of relations between the two countries and that attempts to arouse in Americans hostile, malevolent feelings toward the Soviet Union and the Soviet people. This is a bad policy.

They say that propaganda is politics' younger sister. But the worse a politician's political affairs are going, the noisier his younger sister is.

Propaganda becomes overt demagoguery. President Reagan is raising the question of the "Berlin Wall" for the second time this summer. The first time was in June, and he has already received all the necessary explanations (if he did actually need them.) It is a question of border procedure and of preserving the German Democratic Republic sovereignty. This issue was closed precisely 26 years ago. It cannot be found on any agenda of questions to be discussed between East and West -- neither in Geneva, nor in Vienna, nor at the New York UN Headquarters, nor elsewhere.

Something that does not exist for practical politics has moved to propaganda, worthless propaganda, for it is not worth a brass farthing even from presidential lips.

But worthless propaganda does have a broader purpose, as can be seen from Saturday's radio broadcast. Using the "Berlin Wall" as a pretext, the White House is undermining the Soviet policy of glasnost. This word, as is well known, as already taken root in the English language but by no means everyone understands its meaning. The president is not good at Russian and his advisers obviously do not burden a man who does not like to go into details. So we have a complete contradictory fallacy. Reagan translates glasnost as openness. He takes openness far beyond the boundaries of actual information, the completeness of which is implied by glasnost. Is this frivolous? Yes, it is frivolous when it is a question of very large changes in the life of another great power. And it attests not only the President's ignorance but also to the fact that he is playing on his listeners' ignorance.

But if only it were a case of frivolity alone. It is not so much a play on words that is distracting the U.S. leader as blind anticommunist instincts. And here is the culmination of his linguistic research. "Openness must also signify the liberation of political prisoners, refuseniks, and other prisoners of conscience. It must signify and end to Soviet imperialism, whether in Eastern Europe, Afghanistan, Angola, Cuba, or in Nicaragua. In a word it must signify openness for all nations that are under Soviet domination."

How can you answer such a tirade? It views the world through the eyes of a U.S. conservative in whose mind, despite his post, it is the unbridled anticommunist orator rather than the realistic political and statesman who prevails. When this orator approaches the world using U.S. imperialist yardsticks and proposes recarving the world, he is seen to be acutely lacking in responsibility. The President is scarcely to be excused by the fact that he is addressing his home audience among whom anti-Soviet stereotypes have still not been destroyed. In thinking about the good of his people, a figure of his rank should disseminate a realistic and not a distorted vision of the world.

Recently enumerating a number of the principles that would help the successful development of Soviet-U.S. relations and would rid U.S. politicians of habits inculcated with the spirit of the "cold war," THE NEW YORK TIMES gave pride of place to the following: "Fair play with the American people. The superpowers have diametrically opposing interests, and friction is the inevitable result. Nonetheless, the two countries have important common parallel interests that deserve attention. It is much less interesting to set forward this truth than to builld dreams or hurl insults, but it is much more conducive to a consistent policy."

The editorial article from which this quotation has been taken does not comment on President Reagan's radio broadcast, yet it strikes the speaker fair and square, sparing us superfluous explanations.

And as regards the extremely contradictory exchange between the two leaders, it illustrates as it were M.S. Gorbachev's thought on the difficulties of Soviet-U.S. dialogue. "Here is our world: complex but not hopeless. We believe that everything can be resolved but that each person must reinterpret his role in this world and behave responsibly." The Soviet leader's words about responsibility are addressed to everyone, but in this case they relate particularly to the U.S. President.

U.S. OFFICIALS URGE SUPPORT 'TO TOPPLE' KHOMEYNI

LD191456 Moscow TASS in English 1431 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 19 TASS -- TASS diplomatic correspondent writes:

A report has come from Washington to the effect that a group of American congressmen sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz urging the administration to support the groups waging the struggle with the aim to topple the government of the Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni.

The emphasis was laid on a political manoeuvering of the White House with regard to Iran that would consolidate confidence in the U.S. throughout the region. In other words, U.S. support for anti-government forces in Iran is regarded as one of the ways to consolidate U.S. positions in the Persian Gulf which the U.S. proclaimed a zone of its vital interests.

Moscow diplomatic circles believe that the letter is another confirmation after the Irangate scandal of Washington's foul play in the Persian Gulf area.

It follows from the letter of the congressmen to George Shultz that there are forces in the U.S. that openly come out for the use of any methods, including subversive ones, for ensuring U.S. interests. This adventuristic policy suggests that the Washington Administration intends to create an explosive situation in the Persian Gulf area which, in the long run, would permit the U.S. to attain its ambitious goals in a number of spheres, specifically, to place in power in Iran the politicians that suit the U.S., to expand its permanent military presence in the Persian Gulf and ensure 'easy terms' for it, as well as to influence the relations between the USSR and countries of that region.

In this connection it is worth recalling that the principled stand of the Soviet Union on this issue is as follows: It comes out for a radical improvement of the situation in the region and is ready to take part in a collective quest for ways to putting an end to the Iranian-Iraqi war as soon as possible. The Soviet side attaches special importance to the efforts exerted within the U.N. framework aimed at the fulfillment of Resolution 598 of the Security Council and to the mediatory efforts of the U.N. secretary general.

U.S. COMPUTER EXHIBITION OPENS IN KIEV 12 AUG

AU200854 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 13 Aug 87 p 2

[RATAU report: "An Exhibition Opens"]

[Text] Various samples of computing and video-television equipment used in educational institutions, production, and the household are on display at the "Information USA" exhibition which opened at the Ukrainian SSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements on 12 August.

It was organized by the USIS in cooperation with the All-Union "Ekspotsentr" association and the USSR and Ukrainian SSR Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The exhibitions arranged by the USSR and the United States, stated A.P. Mikhaylichenko, board chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, at the opening ceremony, are called upon to promote mutually beneficial commercial, economic, scientific, technical, and cultural relations. They are to also enhance mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries. He pointed out that the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry was preparing to open an exhibition in the United States entitled "The USSR -- Man, Family, Society." In the year marking Great October's 70th anniversary, it will familiarize Americans with our country and the Soviet way of life. In today's complex and controversial world and under the conditions of the tense international situation, such an exchange is very important.

J. Matlock, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, delivered a speech at the opening ceremony. I am glad, he emphasized, that the "Information USA" exhibition has given me a chance to visit to the Ukrainian capital again. With this exhibition, we are trying to show the impact the communications media has had on the modern life of the United States of America. New technologies give us more free time and enable us to transmit information to all parts of the world. It is relatively simple to transmit information, but to achieve mutual understanding is a significantly more complex matter. The purpose of this exhibition is precisely to contribute toward this difficult but vitally important task. Among the American people, there exists a desire for it. And I am confident that this desire also exists here in Kiev, in the Ukraine, and all over the Soviet Union.

Opening the exhibition, J. Bilbray, member of the House of Representatives (Nevada), pointed out that the exhibition reflected in the most concrete way the desire to promote broad links and exchanges.

The opening ceremony was attended by V.G. Urchukin, the Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman.

ACADEMICIAN PROPOSES JOINT COMPUTER VENTURES

LD200902 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 20 TASS -- Academician Boris Naumov, director general of the Soviet Inter-Sectoral Scientific and Technical Complex called "Personal Computers", made a proposal in today's PRAVDA on establishing a joint international venture to develop and produce personal computers.

According to his idea, the venture can be a subsidiary of the Soviet complex and of one or two foreign firms. "Using some components freely marketed in the West (they are not covered by the embargo imposed by the U.S. Administration on computer facilities), as well as Soviet scientific achievements (incidentally, they have won most favorable references of foreign specialists), it will be possible," Academician Naumov writes with confidence, "to put out personal computers matching the best world standards."

"PRAVDA" notes that, according to specialists' estimates, the Soviet Union's requirements in personal computers of various designation amounts to 28 million today.

SECOND ROUND OF PRC BORDER TALKS ENDS 18 AUG

LD192033 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] The second round of Soviet-Chinese talks on border issues ended in Beijing on Tuesday. The two countries' delegations were headed by Deputy Foreign Ministers Igor Rogachev and Qian Qichen. The first round was held in Moscow in February.

The sides agreed to hold the third round, whose date will be officially announced.

MOSCOW NEWS VIEWS BORDER TIES WITH PRC

PM181041 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 31, 2 Aug 87 p 7

[Yevgeniy Bugayenko report: "Friendship on Soviet-Chinese Border"]

[Text] On Saturday, July 12, a day off, Soviet frontier guards, together with villagers, received as guests the Chinese frontier guards serving on the opposite bank of the river. Working meetings of frontier guards -- known as commissar get-to-gethers -- are constantly held at all sections of the state border. Their aim is usually to solve everyday vital problems and to clear up conflict situations. This time, Soviet people took yet another step towards mutual understanding and invited Chinese frontier guards to look around the village. They were shown the shop, the canteen, the medical centre and the school. The director and other representatives of the Ussuriyskiy state farm told the guests about their farm.

Upon hearing of the unusual event, the local women put on their best dresses and hurried to the centre of the settlement, followed by heads of families, interested in seeing the guests. I went up to a middle-aged man in a smart suit, standing near the office. His name was Vladimir Murzin, the state farm's trade union committee chairman. I asked what he felt about this event.

"I am very much satisfied. It shows that our relations are improving. Warm winds are blowing from the Soviet side. We are initiating broader cooperation. It is high time for us to come to an understanding and to return to the good old days of the 1950, when people on both sides of the border maintained friendly relations. Then our border was called a frontier of friendship. Our relations were very good at that time. I remember how one Chinese man came running from that side asking for a doctor. A member of his family had fallen ill, it was a long way to the hospital, and our village was quite near. We sent for an ambulance and skilled specialists helped the Chinese citizen. There was another incident when a tractor operating on the other side of the border broke down. Its Chinese driver attempted to repair it but couldn't himself. It was a long way to his village and he decided to approach the border and ask frontier guards to send for a mechanic. They did so and helped him out. It's hard to believe that there was such a time, isn't it?

"I would like Chinese and Soviet citizens to do everything possible to return to these friendly times, it is important."

Leonid Kozulin, a pensioner and a long-standing resident of the village, says:

"Sometimes, when I went fishing, I would come across a Chinese fisherman casting his line nearby. He shouts 'hello' and gets 'zdravstvui' in reply. Going along the bank in a motor boat, you can see a Chinese man working. He waves a greeting hand, and you reply in the same way. A year ago, Mikhail Gorbachev visited the Far East and appealed to neighboring peoples to re-establish friendly relations. Today, I see that his proposal is being implemented."

The event in Sheremetyevo village is not the only fact showing that rays of hope are overshadowing years of tension. The news that a Soviet-Chinese technical commission drove along the Amur River is being given much attention today in Khabarovsk. Its aim is to work out a plan for the comprehensive utilization of water resources in the frontier areas of the Amur and the Argun rivers. Experts say that the concrete point at issue is a joint project for the building of a hydroelectric power station. This, in fact, is something from the long-forgotten past. Old residents recall that plans for a joint hydroelectric power station on the Amur River were discussed in the 1950s, and the site was even finalized: near the village of Soyuzny. The first Chinese barge has arrived and is ready for loading in Leninskoye village, south of the Jewish Autonomous Area. This means that joint transportation of export-import goods has resumed on the Amur, the Ussuri and the Sungari rivers. The ships from the Amur steamship line have already started navigation to the Chinese ports of Haihe and Tongjiang, and Chinese ships are now coming to Soviet river ports.

Talks between representatives of trade organizations of the Chinese Heilongjiang province and Inner Mongolia and representatives of trade and government organizations of the Khabarovsk and Maritime Territories (with the mediation of V/o Dalintorg) ended in Khabarovsk and Nakhodka a few weeks ago. Liu Shiqi, Director-General of the Chinese frontier trading company of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, told journalists in Nakhodka that frontier trade with the northern neighbour was very desirable. It helped the successful development of the economy, he said, providing greater opportunities for supplying the population with the prime necessities.

Negotiations are now in progress for opening the Khabarovsk-Harbin air route and for setting up a Chinese shop in Khabarovsk, and a Soviet shop in Harbin. To speed up and ease mutual contacts, frontier guards intend to open sections along the border which would allow Soviet and Chinese specialists easy passage across.

Relations Grow 'Noticeably'

OW131301 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Reporter's report on USSR-PRC border trade]

[Text] As a major step to develop bilateral ties, the Soviet Union and China resumed border trade in 1983. Initially goods were bartered between the USSR's Maritime Kray, Khabarovsk Kray, and Amur Oblast and China's Heilongjiang Province and Nei Mongol Autonomous Region. Later on, the USSR's Kazakhstan, Irkutsk Oblast, Chita Oblast, and Buryat Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic and China's Liaoning and Jilin Provinces and Xinjiang Uigur Autonomous Region also joined the border trade, which has been growing since, and is four times that in the 1960's.

New border trading ports have been opened, while cargoes going through old trading ports of Grodekovo, Suifenhe, Outer (Guigar), and Manzhouli have also increased.

Following is a station reporter's report on changes in Grodekovo train station in recent years.

It was already midnight when a train from Ussuriysk City in the Maritime Kray arrived at Grodekovo station on the Far Eastern railroad. However, at the brightly lit station, trains drawn by locomotives continued to move on the track and other machines were also in motion. It gives people the impression that the work never stops at Grodekovo station.

At daybreak as I walked across the platform bridge, I saw a dynamic scene -- people busy loading and unloading goods to and from cars parked on the track, and locomotives and machines running incessantly. Near a departing train, Soviet and Chinese railway workers were having a discussion. In fact, the scene does not seem extraordinary, taking into consideration the following figure: The volume of trade through the station in 1985 had already reached the 1958 level and exceeded 940,000 tons. It was totally different from what I saw 7 years ago. At that time, except for the busy season of fall when China exported fruits to the Soviet Union, only one train carrying Soviet and Chinese railway crews passed through the station daily. The situation has changed greatly since. From the Chinese side, a dozen trains, loaded with fruits, (?meat products), soybeans, shoes, garments, knitwear, and other goods are bound for the Soviet Union everyday, while trains with machines, lumber, cement, and chemical fertilizers depart from the Soviet Union for China. Such trade is undoubtedly beneficial to the people of the two countries. Stores in the Soviet urban and rural border areas have an abundant supply of Chinese-made consumer goods, while Soviet-made machines and cars are seen in the fields and roads of China. To a certain extent, Soviet exports have eased the supply of building materials in China and accelerated its urban and rural construction.

Grodekovo station works day and night. The one freight train after another passing through the station proves that Soviet-Chinese trade is expanding continuously and the bilateral relations have improved noticeably in recent years.

PRC SCIENTISTS VISIT MOSCOW NUCLEAR INSTITUTE

OW170058 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 16 Aug 87

[From the "News" program]

[Text] Noted PRC Scientist Professor (Wu Ning), director of China's Theoretical Physics Institute, spent 3 weeks in Dubna in the suburbs of Moscow. During his stay he came to understand the work of the Joint Nuclear Institute and came to know scientists from 11 socialist countries. He expressed an interest in establishing ties with the scientists of the Joint Nuclear Institute.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CITES PRC VIEWS ON KOREA

PM191514 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Aug 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Yang Dezhi Statement"]

[Text] Beijing, 18 Aug -- China resolutely supports the just position of the Korean people, who advocate the peaceful, autonomous reunification of their motherland. This was stated here by Yang Dezhi, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, during a meeting with a Korean People's Army delegation headed by Chief of General Staff O Kuk-yol.

Yang Dezhi stressed that China assesses highly the recent DPRK Government decision to reduce its troop numbers by 100,000, and also its proposal to the United States and South Korean on a phased reduction in the troops deployed in North and South Korea and the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Korean peninsula.

PRC STATEMENT REGRETS JAPANESE VISIT TO YASUKUNI

LD182259 Moscow TASS in English 2209 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Beijing, August 18 TASS -- The Government of the People's Republic of China expresses regret in connection with the recent official visit by a group of members of the Japanese Government to the Yasukuni Temple built to commemorate Japanese servicemen who perished during World War II, including war criminals sentenced to death by the international tribunal in Tokyo. This is pointed out in a statement of a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China circulated here.

The statement said that the visit to the militaristic temple again raised the problem of the objective evaluation of the aggressive war unleashed in the past by Japanese militarists. Actions of Tokyo officials are an attempt to distort this evaluation and an insult to the memory of victims of World War II. They encourage those who are trying to revive militarism.

PRC JOURNAL COMMENTS ON JAPANESE MILITARY BUILDUP

PM121331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Steering a Dangerous Course"]

[Text] Beijing, 6 Aug -- The transformation of Japan into an "economic superpower" poses with increasing urgency the question of what military-political course the "Land of the Rising Sun" will choose, the Chinese journal SHIJIE ZHISHI writes. The fact that Tokyo, relying on its economic potential, is not just making major efforts to expand its political influence but is also building up the country's military might in every way is causing growing concern among the world's public.

There are weighty reasons for this, the journal goes on. The Japanese Government has exceeded the limit of 1 percent of its national product for military appropriations. And that means that it has given the "green light" to the unchecked expansion of military preparations. In 1987, Japan's military spending will already total around 25 billion dollars.

The increase in military spending is accompanied by a faster buildup of military might. According to U.S. estimates, the Japanese Air Force, for instance, will by 1990 exceed in terms of aircraft the number of U.S. warplanes deployed at U.S. military bases in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. The might of the Japanese Navy is also growing. This trend clearly indicates that present-day Japan is swiftly developing into one of the mightiest military powers in the world.

Some people are apt to claim that the increase in Japanese military spending and military might is due exclusively to pressure from the United States. However, this is a misconception. Japanese militarism stems from the country's strategic aspirations and pressure from the United States merely plays a "secondary role." In other words, it provides a convenient excuse for Tokyo's military preparations. This is the conclusion reached by the journal.

It is difficult to tell now what path Japan will ultimately choose. But it is possible to state categorically right now, the journal SHIJIE ZHISHI emphasizes, that if it embarks on the path of reviving militarism this will meet not only with a resolute protest from all the planet's peoples, but also with mighty opposition from broad strata of the population in Japan itself.

MOSCOW MANDARIN ON INCREASED JAPANESE MILITARISM

OW121257 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Ivanov commentary from the "World Today" program]

[Excerpts] News has come from Japan that the militarist force in that country is becoming active again, and the anti-China stance openly taken by that clique increasingly rampant. The following is a commentary on this by our observer Ivanov:

The Tokyo authorities have often said that they want to maintain relations of peace and friendship with the PRC. Time and again, representatives of the Japanese ruling clique have alleged that there is no such question at all as the revival of Japanese militarism. Despite many such beautiful words, facts cannot be covered up. Not long ago, Japan lifted the restriction that its military spending should not exceed 1 percent of its GNP. Dear listeners, as you may recall, Deng Xiaoping once said: I feel concerned about the trend of the revival of militarism as reflected by Japan's postwar military spending. [passage omitted] More and more Japanese companies are serving military purposes. Now their number exceeds 2,500.

The just indignation expressed by the Chinese against Japan's increased efforts to revive militarism has aroused hatred from the Japanese militarists, who have stepped up attacks on China. Distortion of facts about the relations between Japan and China has become a common phenomenon. One month ago, the Chinese people and [words indistinct] of many countries commemorated the 50th anniversary of the start of the large-scale Japanese militarist invasion of China. The Japanese aggression brought untold sufferings to the Chinese people. Yet even today certain Japanese cliques still stubbornly avoid using the word aggression wnen depicting the Lugou [Marco Polo] Bridge Incident. They described the Rape of Nanjing staged by Japanese soldiers as a breakthrough and allege that the massacre of the hundred thousands of residents in Nanjing was induced by the Chinese troops' persistent resistance, which inflicted a grave loss on the Japanese side.

The leaders slaughtering the Chinese people; namely, General Tojo, Tanaka, and Matsui, were sentenced to death and executed by the international military court because of their towering military crimes. Now the Japanese militarist clique has enshrined them in the Yasukuni Shrine to be worshipped as sages. Senior representatives of both the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party and the Japanese Government make annual visits to the Yasukuni Shrine. [passage omitted]

The increased activities of the Japanese militarists cannot but arouse the indignation of China and other countries in the Asian-Pacific region that suffered miseries from the Japanese aggression.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAILS GORBACHEV ASIA POLICY

PM191505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[Article by Mongolian Foreign Minister M. Dugersuren: "In the Spirit of New Thinking. The Asia and Pacific Region: Ways to Ensure Mutual Understanding, Security, and Peace"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar — Just over a year has elapsed since M.S. Gorbachev set forth the Soviet program for creating the foundations of all-embracing security and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific basin through the common efforts of all states in the region. On the basis of an in-depth scientific analysis of international relations — their present state and prospects — his speech formulated the constructive concept of strengthening peace in this vast region and proposed practical measures to implement it. M.S. Gorbachev's replies to the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA further developed and expanded the Vladivostok program both through concepts and through specific practical steps.

In accordance with the line of the 27th CPSU Congress, measures to deliver mankind from the nuclear threat constitute the basis of these initiatives. Countering the imperialist course of diktat and neoglobalism and the militarist policy of nuclear deterrence, they are aimed at asserting the principles of peaceful coexistence as the universal norm of international relations and indicate ways for the countries and peoples of the region to switch to active cooperation in the name of strengthening universal security and peaceful cooperation.

The ideas efficiently using the region's growing economic might in the interests of peace and development are closely linked with this. This might is really tremendous. By the start of the 21st century the USSR will have doubled its economic potential on a qualitatively higher scientific and technical level. The PRC Government's plans to accelerate rates of economic development are well known. The other socialist countries of the region will make significant advances in this sphere. The United States, Japan, India, the so-called "new industrial states," and the ASEAN countries will take further steps forward.

We have witnessed many events and trends which clearly point to progress along the path of realizing the ideas of Vladivostok. These are the results of multifaceted vigorous actions by the USSR, other socialist countries, and all peace-loving forces.

Mention should be made of the opportunity which has appeared of reaching an agreement on the question of eliminating the Soviet and U.S. medium-range and operational and tactical missiles. This opportunity has become still more real thanks to the new Soviet proposals with regard to a "global double zero." This constructive and bold step confirms the consistency of the USSR policy aimed at destroying an entire class of nuclear missile means and creates a qualitatively new atmosphere at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms. The speech by USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze at the Geneva Disarmament Conference has expanded still further the practical aspects of the Soviet program for the elimination of means of mass destruction. [paragraph continues]

The implementation of the USSR's new initiatives, Comrade J. Batmonh recently pointed out at an MPRP Central Committee Politburo session, would undoubtedly not only help to strengthen the security of the states of the region and promote a universal desire to achieve a nuclear-free world but would also lessen tension, mistrust, and the danger of new conflicts arising and render safe the sea and air routes and lines of communication over the vast expanses of the Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

If the West overcomes its ingrained negativism and finally accepts the Soviet proposals, a spurt will be made in the cause of nuclear disarmament. Naturally, such an event will have a very direct impact on the strengthening of peace and security in our region.

The Soviet-Indian Declaration on the Principles of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free and Nonviolent World was a major political step on the way to advancing the ideas of Vladivostok and new political thinking. That historic document possesses great political and moral authority. It combines the humane principles of international policy to which the two great forces of modern times -- socialism and the national liberation movement -- adhere.

A significant event last year was the validation of the Rarotonga Treaty, which consolidated the process of turning the South Pacific into a nuclear-free zone. The fact that the Soviet Union and the PRC have signed the corresponding protocols to it has also been met with broad approval. The movement for turning regions such as the Korean peninsula, Southeast Asia, and the Indian Ocean into zones free from nuclear weapons has become more active.

The recent withdrawal from Afghanistan and Mongolia of a number of units of the limited contingents of Soviet troops temporarily stationed in these countries at their governments' request also serves to improve the international climate and to strengthen trust. Despite increased subversive actions by the United States and certain of its NATO and regional accomplices, the process of national reconciliation is successfully being implemented in Afghanistan, and its government's efforts to achieve a political settlement and normalize the situation are meeting with ever greater support.

Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos have imparted new impetus to their efforts aimed at improving relations with the PRC and the ASEAN countries, to turn Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, and cooperation. Thanks to the realistic and flexible stand of the PRK Government and the socialist states of Indochina, positive trends may be seen in the question of settling in a spirit of national reconciliation the situation which has been created around Cambodia.

The DPRK has advanced a number of new initiatives aimed at eliminating tension on the Korean peninsula and in the Far East, setting up a high-level North-South dialogue, and thereby preparing the preconditions for Korea's peaceful unification.

The further improvement of relations between the USSR and the PRC in the political, economic, cultural, and other spheres is of great significance for improving the international situation.

During the year since the Vladivostok speech the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries of Asia have considerably broadened contacts with many countries of the region through various channels and raised the level of political dialogue. They are activating cooperation within the framework of the UN ESCAP and trying to enhance the efficiency of this intergovernmental organization's work.

The consultative meeting of representatives of communist and revolutionary democratic parties held in Ulaanbaatar at the beginning of July attests to the activation of the progressive public in the Aisa and Pacific region countries. There was a lively exchange of opinions on problems of the struggle for peace, security, and good-neighborly cooperation -- an exchange imbued with the spirit of fraternal solidarity. The participants in this first broadly representative meeting of this nature in our region rated highly the significance of the Vladivostok program for strengthening the antiwar and antinuclear movement and outlined ways to mobilize the public in the struggle for peace.

The danger hanging over mankind is not diminishing, however. The situation in the Asia and Pacific region is also being exacerbated. Militarist and revanchist circles are seeking to turn this part of the planet into a new bridgehead of aggression against socialist countries and national liberation movements. U.S. first-strike nuclear missile means are being built up here on land, at sea, and under water. The alliance of U.S. and Japanese military-monopolist forces under the "Star Wars" program has become a dangerous component of the plans for the militarization of space.

Imperialists try to destabilize the situation in progressive and peace-loving states, interfere in their internal affairs, and frequently resort to the use of force through the agency of reactionary regimes. Many countries of the region are increasingly being drawn into the arms race.

Monopolies of the United States, Japan, and other capitalist powers are seeking deeper economic, political, and ideological penetration of the countries of the region. They are sowing anticommunist and anti-Soviet prejudices and fanning mistrust and enmity among peoples.

The situation which has taken shape requires vigorous actions to implement the policy of peace and international cooperation with utilization of all the positive factors and all the positive traditions of the anti-imperialist and anticolonial struggle of the peoples of the region. Let us recall that it was as far back as during the "cold war" period that the 5 principles of peaceful coexistence ("panch shila") and the 10 principles of Bandung were proclaimed in Asia and that the Nonaligned Movement was begun. Is this not an aktiv of fighters for peace and cooperation!

Now that the question of the future of our civilization is on the agenda, maximum use must be made of the human factor and of the force of reason to create a reliable system of security equal for all countries and peoples -- large and small.

Socialist countries proceed from the truth that mankind has real potential for rebuffing the adventurist policy of nuclear deterrence, strong-arm pressure, and neoglobalism. Their growing material potential and political influence serve this. We are convinced that the processes of restructuring now taking place in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and the struggle for the all-around acceleration of socialist building will still further strengthen the material guarantee of world peace and security.

JAPANESE TV ON FISHERY EXPERTS MEETING IN SAKHALIN

OW190526 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1200 GMT 12 Aug 87

[From the "News Center 9" program]

[Excerpts] Preparations have been started for a Japan-USSR joint project on which rests the recovery of the northern sea fishery. According to the project, Japan and the USSR will jointly set up a salmon hatchery on Sakhalin. If the project results in the increase of salmon resources, it is expected that good prospects will be opened for Japan's northern sea fishery, which is in a serious situation now. When Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery Minister Kato held talks with Soviet Fish Industry Minister Kotlyar in Moscow last June, an accord was reached on setting up salmon hatcheries at the strong request of the Soviet side. In particular, the Soviet side has expectations on Japan's outstanding hatching technology, while the Japanese side expects that, with the success of the joint project, it may secure stable fishing operations in the northern sea.

According to the Soviet proposal, the two countries will cooperate in jointly setting up hatching and processing plants on the Okhotsk Sea Coast in northern Sakhalin. This will be the first Japan-USSR joint fishery venture. The first meeting of experts on this joint salmon hatching project was held in Sakhalin recently. As a rule, Sakhalin is off-limits to foreigners. However, with special permission, NHK reporters accompanied the Fishery Agency's study group to the meeting. Here is a report by reporter Masaki of the Special News Department:

[Begin recording] [Kazuo Masaki] [Video shows street scenes of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk] holding this first meeting on this border island of Sakhalin, we feel that the Soviet Union has indicated its strong enthusiasm for this joint venture. Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, where the meeting was held, is the largest city in Karafuto [Sakhalin], which belonged to Japan up to the end of the last war. It has a population of 200,000 and was once called Toyohara. Forty years after the end of the war, nothing Japanese can be found in this city now. [passage omitted]

The first joint meeting of Japanese and Soviet experts was held on 5 August, the first day of our arrival in Sakhalin:

[Fishery Agency's Research Department Director Nakamua] In regard to salmon fishing, our country has hitherto maintained the position of positively cooperating with the Soviet Union in salmon reproduction. We plan to continue our positive cooperation in order to secure stable fishing operations for our fishermen.

[Masaki] Present at the meeting from the Japanese side were seven experts, including Director Nakamura of the Fishery Agency's Research Department. From the Soviet side, there were 10 experts, including Deputy Chief (Ryuzhikov) of the Far East Fishery Corporation. Each side is represented by administrators and technicians.

According to the Soviet proposal, a hatchery will be set up with approximately 4 billion yen at the middle reaches of the Tymj River on the eastern coast of Sakhalin, which flows into the Okhotsk Sea, and a marine products processing plant will be set up at Nogliki near the mouth of the same river, located at 52 degrees latitude north. Half a million fry will be discharged annually, with plans of 1 million salmon being raised, or about 3,000 tons. In carrying out the project, the Soviet side will count on the Japanese funds and also on advanced Japanese hatching technology, which is considered the most advanced in the world. [passage omitted]

[Video shows Masaki interviewing deputy chief (Ryuzhikov)

[Masaki] Regarding the salmon hatching project, what does the Soviet Union expect, in concrete terms, from Japan?

[Riuzhikov in Russian with Japanese subtitles; translated from the original Russian] The Far East now provides about 40 percent of the entire catch in our country. Cooperation with countries of the Pacific Basin will permit us to expand -- on a mutually beneficial basis with those countries we cooperate with -- and to further increase the volume of fish caught. The establishment of joint enterprises is not only beneficial to us, but is also of mutual benefit. [passage omitted]

[Masaki] [Video shows the reporter seeing off the Japanese experts at the train station] At midnight on 7 August, the government officials of both the Japanese and Soviet side left the Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk station by night train for an inspection tour to the site selected for building the hatchery. It is located in the middle reaches of the Tymj River about 500 kilometers to the north. Reporters are not permitted to go north of this city, but we have not been told why. [passage omitted]

[Video shows Masaki interviewing Director Nakamura]

[Masaki] First, what is your impression of the actual place?

[Nakamura] We were shown two places selected for hatcheries. These places are good sites. However, in regard to water problems, the most important condition for a hatchery, there are some problems. If these cannot be solved, the project cannot begin immediately. Japan is greatly concerned about the salmon resources in the Far East, as is the Soviet Union. If the salmon resources of common concern to our two countries are increased, I feel that we can naturally expect some favorable results from this increase.

[Masaki] We can say that the fishery relations between Japan and the Soviet Union are somewhat stable at present. However, several technical and political issues must be settled before the joint project of setting up hatching and product processing plants can be materialized. Nevertheless, the enthusiasm for completing these projects, as indicated by both the Japanese and Soviet sides, remains unchanged, and the persons concerned with fishery are watching the development with great expectations for the promotion of northern sea fishing. [end recording]

As we mentioned in the beginning, it is rather unusual for Japanese television reporters to be allowed to visit Sakhalin. Our reporters have also made films on the current situation on Sakhalin, and these reports will be shown on later occasions.

SRV'S NGUYEN CO THACH DEPARTS MOSCOW 19 AUG

LD192118 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Nguyen Co Thach, member of the Politburo of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, deputy chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers and foreign minister, who was passing through our country, left Moscow for home.

CAMBODIAN LEADER HENG SAMRIN DEPARTS AFTER VACATION

LD181251 Moscow TASS in English 0943 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 18 TASS -- Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, today left for home.

He was on holidays in the Soviet Union.

MOSCOW VIEWS STATE OF RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA

BK180430 Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia 1300 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Article by Oriental Historian Aleksandr Alekseyev on Indonesia's national day]

[Text] The victory of the August 1945 Revolution marked the end of a long and arduous anticolonial struggle waged by the Indonesian people. The main features of this struggle are well-known in the Soviet Union -- the Diponegoro-led war on Java in the 19th century, the national awakening in the early 20th century, and the anti-Dutch rebellions in 1926 and 1927. Not only did the August Revolution establish a sovereign Indonesian state but it also heralded the struggle for the abolition of inequality, the exploitation of man by man, poverty, and backwardness and for the establishment of a just and prosperous society based on mutual assistance.

The 1945 revolution opened a new chapter in the history of Indonesia. But, its significance reached far beyond the boundaries of Indonesia. Indeed, the Indonesian people were the first to achieve independence in the postwar period. As recognized in Indonesia, the conditions of the victory were created to a great extent by the destruction of Nazism and militarian by the Soviet Union and its allies in the World War II. The August Revolution in one of the largest countries in Asia definitely influenced the feelings of the oppressed peoples in the continent and stimulated the development of liberation movements.

I also see another aspect of the August Revolution. This event marked the emergence of a country which actively adopts an anti-imperialist policy. In the opinion of Soviet historians, the activities of the Republic of Indonesia in the international arena are an influential factor in the struggle to guarantee independence and security and for equality in international relations. Indeed, it is enough to remember Indonesia's participation in holding the Afro-Asian Conference in Bandung, which laid the basis for the Nonaligned Movement. More than 30 years have passed since then, but the Bandung 10 Principles continue to play a role as a basis for guaranteeing international security and just relations in the world.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence of the Republic of Indonesia, it is appropriate to recall relations with the Soviet Union in the first years of the independent Republic of Indonesia. Let us recall that diplomatic relations between our two countries were established in 1950. However, cooperation had in fact begun earlier. The Soviet Union, along with other progressive forces, came out in support of the Indonesian people when the independent Republic of Indonesia had to counter the aggression by the British and Dutch imperialists in its first days.

In his recent interview with B.M. Diah, chief editor of the daily MERDEKA, Mikhail Gorbachev recalled as follows: The Soviet people have a good memory and a sharp eye for history. We remember the years of Soviet-Indonesian cooperation in the beginning of the post-colonial history of Indonesia. At that time, having achieved national independence, you acquired many friends in the Soviet state. The world "merdeka" [freedom] is honored, respected, and cherished by the Soviet people.

Our cooperation developed successfully in the fifties and sixties, covering not only the economic and cultural fields, but also efforts to educate national experts and the strengthening of the defense capability of the newly independent Republic of Indonesia. I would like to point out that thousands of people from both sides participated in the cooperation and this has built a strong basis for the development of friendly relations and mutual respect between our two peoples.

We have just talked about past cooperation. However, one is more interested in the future. I think that the prospects are very bright because our two countries share similar views on the main problems of the present day, first of all the struggle for peace and security. There is also a common desire for equal and mutually advantageous cooperation in the economic field. Contacts between the Soviet Union and Indonesia have been increasing markedly. I mean here, among other things, the recent visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Indonesia. A new summit meeting -- visits by President Suharto and Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja to Moscow -- has been planned. As stated by Mikhail Gorbachev in his interview with the daily MERDEKA, all this has given hope that Soviet-Indonesian cooperation will be elevated to a new qualitative level.

As is already known, Indonesia is exploring the possibilities of and objective needs for the development of relations between the two countries in various fields. Prospects for cooperation in the exploration of outer space for peaceful purposes have generated no little interest.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to extend congratulations on the anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence of the Republic of Indonesia to the Indonesian people and all Radio Moscow listeners. May you live prosperously and happily!

VORONTSOV DISCUSSES SOVIET STAND ON MIDEAST

JN191000 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 17 Aug 87 pp 24, 25, 53

[Ahmad Hamrush article: "The Soviets and the Cause of Peace in the Middle East"]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] Nothing concerns the Soviet citizen more -- whether he is an official or a nonofficial -- than the cause of world peace, nuclear disarmament, and the prevention of Star Wars.

Gorbachev has not ceased making proposals in this respect. These proposals, which cover all fields, have not produced angry reactions from anyone.

During a meeting at this office in the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Deputy Foreign Minister Vorontsov explained the new Soviet policy as follows:

Soviet policy is tackling matters differently. This applies to everything: the national economy, social life, and the resolution of international issues. World issues are viewed differently today.

Vorontsov continues: We now look at the future and try to understand mankind's demands. For instance, we view nuclear disarmament issues with the end of this century in mind. On the other hand, European states still view these matters with the mentality of the middle of this century when atomic weapons were considered a deterrent to war. But, the nuclear stockpile -- which has now reached 70,000 bombs -- is a dangerous situation that could lead to serious consequences. In the middle of this century when there was only a limited number of atomic weapons, it was thought these bombs would prevent war.

Vorontsov says: The potential stockpile of 200,000 atomic bombs by the end of this century creates a situation that threatens peace prospects. So, we view matters differently with the end of the century in mind.

The cause of world peace and nuclear disarmament are the Soviet leadership's main concern. But what about the Middle East crisis? What about the tragedy of our people, who are in a continuous state of war and tension? The Arab nation, led by the Palestinians, is resisting colonialism backed by a strategic ally, the United States.

What about the Middle East problem? Has it retreated in view of these other major problems? Has it been affected by the change in Soviet policy?

Vorontsov, who received us in the presence of Polyakov -- the man whose meeting with Richard Murphy seems to have had no effect on the thermometer of the crisis -- said: The Middle East question is the most serious issue. Our concern about world peace does not mean overlooking this important issue. Proof of this is our continuous effort to hold the international conference.

Vorontsov affirmed: We believe that the international conference can be held soon, but that this requires good preparation. We must work for its success and avoid failure so it will not have a negative effect on the situation in the region. We believe the conference is of special importance. If we are able to hold the international conference before the end of this year, well and good.

Brutents, member of the CPSU Central Committee, explains the Soviet view of the international conference as follows: Several changes have taken place in different directions concerning our position in the Middle East. We maintain that it is impossible to solve the problem through armed confrontation in view of the dangers involved. When oil prices were high, it was possible for the Arab states to bear the burden of armament. Now, however, the burdens make it more difficult for the Arab states and lead to economic and social backwardness. We are therefore concentrating on holding the international conference.

The international conference has become the focus of Soviet concern, after taking into consideration the possibilities of armed confrontation in a world which cannot but seek peace to avoid the liquidation of human civilization through nuclear suicide. There will not be another Noah's Ark emerging from the nuclear flood, as Gorbachev said in his speech before the big international conference held recently in Moscow under the slogan: For the sake of a world free of nuclear arms and for the preservation of mankind.

We then discussed the conference problems with Vorontsov, Soviet first deputy foreign minister, who had recently visited Iraq, Kuwait, other Arab countries, and Iran, and who was invited to visit Egypt. Will the conference be held as long as only some and not all have good intentions? What major problems are hampering the convocation of the conference?

Vorontsov says: Palestinian representation is the major problem. Without solving the Palestinian question, which is the prominent central issue, and without self-determination, we cannot reach a just peace in the region. The Palestinians should have an equal right to participate in the conference. There are ideas and schemes that try to prevent the Palestinians from attending the conference.

The second issue or problem lies in answering these questions: What will the conference consist of? Will it solve problems or be confined to bilateral negotiations with the Arab countries?

Vorontsov explained the Soviet viewpoint of the conference by saying: Our opinion is clear and logical. We believe that all parties should discuss all issues of common interest. No just solution can be reached without the participation of all parties in the conference. No just and durable solution can be reached without stopping the war in the area and concluding agreements to prevent the eruption of another war and provide the necessary guarantees for that.

Vorontsov adds: Nevertheless, there are private affairs concerning the two sides and these can be discussed by bilateral or geographical committees. We accept this and consider it something natural. Why should other parties participate in the international conference if the European countries want it to lead to bilateral negotiations as soon as it is inaugurated? Bilateral negotiations will not yield any result. The Western countries are not interested in the success of the conference. All they want is to see Israel sit at a negotiating table with an Arab country. We asked the Western countries to do this -- if it is possible -- without calling this an international conference.

At this juncture Vorontsov pointed to Polyakov, who was sitting on his right, and said: Tell us about the United States' opinion.

Polyakov, who met with Murphy in Geneva a few weeks before, said: Neither the United States nor Israel considers the Palestinian question a central issue. Neither of them seeks to solve it. Both deny the right to self-determination and do not recognize the PLO. Both believe that the issue is one of negotiations with a Jordanian delegation comprising Palestinians acceptable to Israel.

Commenting on Polyakov's remarks, Vorontsov said: This is the old-fashioned way of thinking which reminds us of what the French said about the Bourbon kings following the restoration of monarchy, that they have not learned anything.

Vorontsov concluded his remarks about the possibilities of holding the conference by saying: Large and serious efforts should be exerted to hold the conference and we will do so.

We then raised the important issue of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel following numerous reports about a rapprochement that may end with the restoration of diplomatic relations, especially because a Soviet mission was in Israel during our presence in Moscow.

Vorontsov said clearly: There is no change in our relations with Israel and no change will take place. You know why relations were broken.

Naturally we know that relations between Moscow and Tel Aviv were broken following the June 1967 aggression and remain broken.

Vorontsov adds: Diplomatic relations will not be restored unless the reasons for their severance are removed. We nevertheless still recognize the state of Israel and have contacts with the representatives of this state. We do not deny that there are contacts between the Soviet and Israeli Foreign Ministries. We are ready to contact them but these contacts have not been fruitful thus far.

We try to discuss Middle East issues but they try to avoid this to discuss the issue of Jewish emigration, over which we see no problem. [paragraph continues]

During these contacts, they were trying to show that they represent the interests of Soviet Jews, and they concentrated on this issue. However, they now concentrate on improving the conditions of Jews in the USSR such as by teaching Yiddish or issuing the Torah. We believe these to be purely domestic issues. We feel bored by these contracts.

Vorontsov says he cannot recall discussing the Middle East issue except on one occasion in a meeting between Shevardnadze and Peres. He added, however, that at the end of this meeting, Peres said he wanted to discuss the conditions of Jews in a future meeting. Regarding the Soviet consular team in Israel, it is not authorized to hold any political contacts or talks. This is despite the fact that we are not against political dialogue with Israel. This team, however, is entrusted with discussing consular affairs related to citizens who still maintain their Soviet citizenship and the condition of the Russian church's real estate and property in Israel. I heard on the radio that the Israelis demanded that an Israeli consular delegation visit the USSR.

Vorontsov adds: In principle there is no objection to this. However, there are no Israeli citizens, real estate, or property in the USSR.

The Soviet stand toward the issue of contacts with Israel becomes clear when Vorontsov says: I repeat we have a desire to discuss the Middle East issue.

In a statement to the Italian newspaper L'UNITA, Mikhail Gorbachev said that relations with Israel can be resumed on the condition that true progress is achieved in relations with Israel. We asked Vorontsov to explain this statement, and he said: We mean progress in the Israelis' way of thinking and their readiness to recognize the Palestinian people's rights and to withdraw from the occupied territories. This would give an opportunity for achieving progress in bilateral relations.

Based on this, we can sum up the Soviet stand toward relations with Israel in the following major points:

The USSR recognizes Israel as a state and deals with it on this basis.

There are no obstacles to holding political meetings between the two states to discuss the Middle East issue. In fact, we can say that they show concern for this.

The issue of restoring diplomatic relations is ruled out as long as Israel insists on its stand and does not announce its readiness to withdraw from the occupied territories and to recognize the Palestinian people's rights.

The consular talks do not rise to a political level but are confined to discussing Soviet citizens and property in Israel.

The USSR is not ready to discuss purely domestic issues even if they are related to the Soviet Jews.

Regarding the Soviet stand toward the issue of Palestinian representation, Vorontsov said: We support an independent Palestinian delegation in the international conference because the Palestinians have their own issues. The Palestinian delegation cannot be represented by any other delegation, especially when discussing important issues such as self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state. This is the Soviet stand. However, if the Palestinians accept any other decision we will approve it. If they want to join a unified Arab delegation, we support them and we have no objection to this.

SYRIAN PARLIAMENTARIAN ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 18 AUG

JN182024 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1550 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 18 Aug (SANA) -- Mahmud al-Zu'bi, People's Assembly speaker in the Syrian Arab Republic, arrived here today. He is on a friendly and official visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. On hand to welcome him at the airport were Lev Nikolayevich Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Yusuf Jum'a, charge d'affaires of the Syrian Embassy in Moscow, and embassy staff.

Speaking to reporters upon his arrival, Al-Zu'bi said: he was happy to be visiting the Soviet Union. He said: "We are bound to this friendly nation with close ties in all fields, including parliamentary ties."

Al-Zu'bi said relations between Syria and the USSR are built on the friendship and cooperation treaty. Both sides are now striving to develop these relations still further, said Al-Zu'bi. He said the distinguished relations led to fruitful cooperation culminating in the joint space mission. This mission was in the interest of the peaceful purposes of Syria, and the USSR, and the entire world.

Al-Zu'bi said the itinerary of the visit will provide the opportunity to hold talks on parliamentary affairs and other issues of common concern. Coordination between the two sides will also promote world peace and progress, added the People's Assembly speaker. He emphasized the excellent relations between the two countries. He said these ties were further cemented by the visit to Moscow by Comrade President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and the positive results it produced. Al-Zu'bi expressed appreciation for Soviet principled, militant stands on Arab causes and the cause of peace and liberation worldwide. He saluted Soviet accomplishments and ingenious initiatives in democracy, socialism, and promoting chances for peace, as well as averting the threat of nuclear disasters.

Meanwhile, the People's Assembly speaker and his delegation this evening called at the headquarters of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Kremlin.

Meets With Tolkunov

JN190635 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow — Lev Nikolayevich Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, has expressed appreciation for Syria's policy and course aimed at confronting the Zionist aggressions, safeguarding the Arab people's national rights, and achieving a just solution to the Palestinian question.

During a meeting with Syrian People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and his accompanying delegation yesterday, Tolkunov added that the importance of the relations of friendship and the comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and Syria is not confined to the two countries, but plays an extremely important role in normalizing the situation in the Middle East region. He pointed out that the meeting held between President Hafiz Aal-Asad and Mikhail Gorbachev last April was a new opportunity to promote relations between the USSR and Syria. He said the Syrian-USSR joint space trip played an important role in promoting relations between the two countries in all fields.

In a speech during the meeting, Al-Zu'bi expressed Syria's appreciation for the USSR's support for the Arab cause. He expressed satisfaction with the promotion of relations between the two countries. He said: Syria follows with admiration the dynamic development in all fields in the USSR. He stressed Syria's support for the USSR's initiatives in the fields of disarmament, the struggle for peace, and strengthening of socialism.

U.S. NEEDS GULF CONFRONTATION TO CHANGE IRAN

LD191936 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] American naval ships have begun escorting another group of tankers through the Persian Gulf. The United States is concealing the convoy's route and, in general, American military operations in the Gulf. Many observers believe that the situation there is on the verge of a confrontation, primarily between the United States and Iran.

Soviet diplomatic circles believe Washington needs such a situation in the Gulf which would allow it to bring a suitable government to power in Iran, receive military advantages, and influence the relations between the Soviet Union and the countries of the region.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA MARKS AFGHAN ARMY DAY

PM191500 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Aug 87 First Edition p 3

[Article by Colonel O. Cherneta under the rubric "Today Is DRA Army Day": "Guardian of the Revolution"]

[Text] This is the second year that the Afghan people have celebrated their country's Army Day. [paragraph continues]

The establishment of this holiday was direct recognition of the Army's services in defending the gains of the national democratic revolution. It is deeply symbolic that DRA Army Day is marked on 19 August, the day of the restoration of the country's independence. This emphasizes the indissoluble unity of the Afghan people and their Army.

Under the conditions of fierce struggle against the counterrevolution, the DRA leadership has — as is well known — proclaimed a course of national reconciliation and declared a unilateral cease-fire. But the counterrevolutionary ringleaders do not want to stop their criminal activity, and therefore the Armed Forces are forced to wage combat operations against rebel formations.

Among the range of measures taken by the PDPA, the Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Government, with the aim of putting into practice the policy of national reconciliation, stabilizing the situation, strengthening local organs of power, and stepping up the struggle against the forces of counterrevolution and aggression from outside, a special place belongs to measures for increasing the country's defense capability and strengthening the Armed Forces: the Army, militia (sarandoy), and state security subunits.

It should be noted that immediately after the victory of the April Revolution, resolute measures were adopted to reorganize the old army, purge its command personnel of enemies of the revolution, and create an army of the new type, capable of safeguarding the DRA population's peaceful labor. Since the revolution, there has been a decisive change in the Army's attitude toward soldiers, who are full citizens of their country. New relations among commanding officers, soldiers, and sergeants, relations which differ radically from the royal army, are being established. They are based on the common interest in defending the revolution and fulfilling the sacred duty to the people. Now one can often find a commanding officer having a heart-to-heart talk with a soldier. Very much has been and is being done to improve the life of Army personnel. To this end, dozens of barracks have been built and old ones have been refurbished. There are television and radio sets, libraries, and political education rooms in the subunits. More than 70 clubs operate in military garrisons.

The PDPA and the DRA Government are seeking to ensure that the Army is a school not only of purely military training, but also of general education and political and international education, as well as a forge for cadres for the country's economy. As is known, many soldiers enter the service illiterate. This is a grave legacy of the old regimes, which did not seek to enable ordinary working people to read and write. Neither the resources nor the time for this were provided. The struggle against illiteracy is developing across the country. An active part in resolving this nationwide task is played by the Army, where courses to eliminate illiteracy are constantly operating.

Representatives of practically all nationalities of Afghanistan courageously and staunchly defend the cause of the April Revolution in combat formation. In the Army, overall leadership of the ideological education of personnel, and of party political work in general, is exercised by the Army Main Political Directorate, which has the status of a PDPA Central Committee department. Measures are being taken to ensure that political organs and party organizations become the nucleus of the unity and cohesion of party ranks.

National reconciliation raises to a new level the Army's significance in the cause of putting this policy into practice. It was noted at the PDPA Central Committee Plenum in June 1987 that in the past 18 months the Army has strengthened significantly, its combat capability has increased, and the number of volunteers wanting to become armed defenders of their country has increased. A turning point was the adoption of the new law on universal military service, as well as the increase in the financial allowance and the establishment of additional privileges for servicemen.

During the implementation of national reconciliation, the Army's political functions have increased sharply and its peace-making functions have widened and grown. Great significance is attached to the political work carried out by the Army among various strata of the population, propagandizing the aims and tasks of the April Revolution. To this end, propaganda subunits have been created in the Army. Such actions by Army units and subunits as help with the construction and repair of schools, hospitals, mosques, roads, and agricultural work were formerly carried out. Now added to these there is work with refugees, the distribution of nonrepayable aid to the population, and broader agitation and propaganda work in the localities. Army propaganda detachments have already distributed a total of more than 800 million afghanis of nonrepayable aid to the population in 1987.

An important factor influencing the formation, development, and strengthening of the DRA Army is the presence in the country of a limited contingent of Soviet troops, which, as is known, was brought into Afghanistan in response to repeated requests by the DRA Government for assistance in rebuffing aggression. Reliable, friendly ties and close combat cooperation have become established between Soviet and Afghan servicemen. With every day they strengthen and develop, both during joint tactical exercises in the mountains and firing ranges and exercises using hardware, and in the course of combat operations.

The Afghan servicemen learn much that is useful for them during joint seminars, assemblies, and other measures. The combat collaboration evenings become real festivals.

It is well known that after fulfilling its international mission the limited contingent of Soviet troops will return home. M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, answering questions from the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA, once again reaffirmed the Soviet Union's position, stating: "In principle the question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan has been resolved. We are in favor of the withdrawal schedule being short. However, there must be an end to and guaranteed nonresumption of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs."

The process of forming and improving the Afghan Army has also encountered a number of difficulties. They are due first and foremost to the novelty of building a revolutionary army, the complex and contradictory structure of Afghan society, and the influence of vestiges of the past, the hostile actions of the counterrevolution and its patrons, and certain errors on the part of the republic's former leadership.

Relying on their friends' help, Afghan servicemen, in combat with armed formations of counterrevolutionary forces which have undergone training abroad, heroically defend the gains of the April Revolution.

They have routed numerous rebel groupings, as a result of which the enemy sustained great losses. Army tactics are becoming more flexible, taking traditional principles into account. The autonomy of action by Afghan units and formations is increasing. This was particularly clear in the combat operations near Qandahar city this summer. As the newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR reported, in the interests of more flexible troop management, a northern military district is being set up, centered on Mazar-e Sharif.

On this notable day in the life of the Afghan people and their Army, Soviet servicemen wish their friends successes in advancing further along the path of national reconciliation and raising the level of combat readiness of Army units and formations for the sake of achieving peace and tranquillity on Afghan soil.

FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMENTS ON CHAD-LIBYA DISPUTE

PM171545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 87 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under the general heading: "Conflict in North Africa": "USSR Foreign Ministry on the Line"]

[Text] We asked the Foreign Ministry Information Administration to comment on the events in this region of Africa where the sound of gunfire has been heard again, for the umpteenth time.

The fact, the editorial office was told, the Ndjamena did not heed the appeal made recently by the OAU to refrain from using force to solve disputes and ignored the offer of good offices reaffirmed by this authoritative African forum can only arouse deep regret.

The continuation of the clashes, for whatever motives, goes against the aspirations of the Chadian and Libyan peoples and other African peoples and threatens security in the region and in the African Continent. Clearly, military operations play into the hands of the neocolonialist goals of certain very specific external forces.

Another thing is also clear: It is another attempt to destabilize the progressive regime in Tripoli, which pursues an independent policy. What certain people failed to achieve last year from the north they are trying to achieve this time from the south, using the agency of others.

As for the Soviet Union, it consistently and resolutely favors a political settlement of all regional conflicts. This applies fully to the crisis in Chad. We support the OAU's efforts aimed at unblocking the dangerous situation in the region, and we call on all sides directly or indirectly involved in the conflict to show restraint and political prudence and to a halt to the confrontation as speedily as possible.

The USSR continues to proceed from the premise that all aspects of the Chadian problem, including the so-called question of Aozou, must be solved by peaceful means under the auspices of the OAU, without outside intervention.

MADRID'S DIARIO 16 INTERVIEWS MILITARY LEADERS

Lebedev on NATO, Economy

PM131436 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 3 Aug 87 p 12

[Interview with Armed Forces General Staff Department Deputy Chief General Yuriy Lebedev by Miguel Angel Liso in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] Moscow -- Red Army General Yuriy Lebedev, deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff Department, is a relaxed man accustomed to dealing with Western journalists.

This chain-smoking 62 year old general with 45 years of army service behind him and an unbuttoned tunic -- unusual for a soldier -- was fulsome in his praise of Spain and told me to "ask, ask whatever you like, without reservations." The general gave similarly uninhibited replies with regard to the negative impact of his country's high level of military expenditure, the failure of the economic system, and a "restructuring" that will make the USSR freer.

Yuriy Lebedev smiled broadly when I asked him informally whether the Russians are already tired of being asked about the missiles allegedly targeted on Spain.

"Ha, ha! Yes, they always ask us that, and we always reply the same way, with the truth. The Soviet Union does not have any missiles targeted on your country even though Spain has missiles targeted on us. The USSR has developed its missile defense plan against the missiles that threaten us but not against the civilian centers of the countries where they are installed."

Spain and NATO [subhead]

[Liso] What was the significance for you of Spain's final accession to NATO?

[Lebedev] Spain's accession to NATO is an internal affair, and I am not going to comment on it, though of course we take account of it in terms of millitary strategy.

[Liso] "Military strategy": Can this be interpreted as plans for a direct attack?

[Lebedev] Not in this case. We simply take it into account in the correlation of forces between East and West. When NATO cites figures for its military strength Spain and France are always forgotten, and we include those countries' figures. Therefore if talks are initiated on conventional arms reduction we will demand a reduction of the forces of all NATO countries, including Spain.

[Liso] What are the direct threats to the USSR?

[Lebedev] Basically the orientation of the policy of the United States, which seeks military superiority over the Soviet Union. If the United States and NATO continue this arms race it could result in a war, which would be a worldwide disaster.

[Liso] The Western countries level the same charge at you....

[Lebedev] One must be guided not by demagogic statements but by facts, and I am going to give you some: The USSR has announced that it will never be the first to use nuclear weapons; we have approved an 18-month moratorium on nuclear tests; and in recent years the USSR has made concrete proposals for the reduction of chemical and nuclear weapons, none of which has elicited the slightest response. Nevertheless I believe that a major reduction of nuclear and conventional weapons can be achieved if the Western side so desires.

[Liso] Is the high percentage of the USSR's GDP (approximately 15 percent) devoted to military expenditure not a crucial factor in your country's low living standards?

[Lebedev] Yes, you are right. If so much money were not allocated to defense it could be allocated to other social needs. However, we Soviets cannot repeat what happened in 1941. The defeat occurred because of a lack of attention to the Army's needs, and there are still countries that consider us their enemy and that threaten us. However, I want to stress to you that the people understand these needs and do not yearn for additional comforts. The funding of the Army does not cause negative feelings on the people's part. Nevertheless our plans include a reduction of military spending in order to allocate the money to other areas.

[Liso] You are now proposing a reduction of all kinds of weapons, but this seems to be happening only because your country is in a serious economic situation as a result of the high level of military spending....

[Lebedev] Even if this is so, is it bad thing? I will talk to you about the economy later, but factors such as these serve mankind's salvation.

[Liso] However, they can reveal that it is not a very sincere, noble, or honorable attitude but, rather, a selfish attitude governed by economic considerations....

[Lebedev] It is possible that if we had made these proposals earlier the public's enthusiasm and confidence in us would be greater, but until after the Reykjavik meeting last year we were not even sure that our arms reduction offers would be heeded.

[Liso] What about your country's serious economic crisis?

[Lebedev] True, we have hit an economic ceiling, but not so much because of the incapacity of the socialist system as because of labor organization. I have visited foreign countries and felt angry comparing the quality of western and Soviet stores. Now we have to try to raise the quality of consumption [as published] in order to satisfy the citizens' demands for more meat or fish, and I am sure that once the problems have been resolved we will be on a par with Western countries' level of development.

[Liso] If the arms reduction talks do not prosper you will have difficulty in performing this task....

[Lebedev] True, but even if it is more difficult for us to cut military spending we will carry it out.

[Liso] Are you admitting the failure of your country's economic system?

[Lebedev] Yes, I testify to it, and this has been happening since the sixties. Mikhail Gorbachev has already said that mistakes have been made in society's social and economic development and that they must now be corrected.

Change of Attitudes [subhead]

[Liso] Is this the famous "restructuring"....

[Lebedev] Yes, yes, it is a revolutionary process supported by the entire Soviet people. The aim is to surmount the stagnation, to change the Soviet people's internal attitudes, to change the way things are.

[Liso] The Army exercises great power in the USSR but does it support this opening-up process?

[Lebedev] It is the same as with the Soviet people. There is no possibility of the Army's opposing this opening-up because we soldiers originate from the people and the entire people have welcomed the restructuring, even though, like everywhere else, there may be a very small sector opposed to it. This is unimportant, however.

[Liso] Will the restructuring make the Soviet people freer?

[Lebedev] Yes. This is one of the aims. Democratization fights for the people's interests and nobody can withstand this process.

[Liso] Last, General, is the Soviet troops' intervention in Afghanistan not a clear example of interference in another country's internal affairs?

[Lebedev] That is incorrect. We have signed a friendship treaty with Afghanistan and our presence is justified. A revolution took place and the people seized power. The government asked us for help and we are going to help them in their democratic transformation.

[Liso] Does it mean nothing to you that in Spain, for instance, your Army's invasion of Afghanistan prompted the unanimous rejection of both conservative and left-wing forces?

[Lebedev] In the West and in your country there are circles that do not want an improvement of relations with the USSR because they have links with military vested interests. If these relations improve they would lose their job, which is why they take every opportunity to falsify the truth, mislead, and disguise their own interests.

Gribkov on Defense Policy

PM141320 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 4 Aug 87 p 12

[Interview with General Anatoliy Gribkov, Warsaw Pact Joint Armed forces first deputy commander in chief, by Miguel Angel Liso in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] Moscow -- "Please tell the Spanish people that the Warsaw Pact wants peace and that we will never start a war. Our policy is defensive. Make this quite clear."

These remarks were made by one of the top Warsaw Pact commanders, Anatoliy Gribkov, the military organizations' second-in-command, first deputy commander of the Joint Armed forces of the eastern bloc countries' alliance, in his first interview with a Spanish newspaper.

"I admire Spain and am acquainted with its titanic struggle against fascism and the bombardment of Guernica. I have read Garcia Lorca and I very much like Picasso, Goya, and Velazquez."

Our conversation took place in the Warsaw Pact staff headquarters on Moscow's Leningrad Avenue. The headquarters, from which over 6 million troops and thousands of tanks, aircraft, and warships can be coordinated, does not have the appearance of a military stronghold.

The building, surrounded by iron railings and discreetly guarded by Red Army soldiers, is painted white and pale blue and its facade is marked by huge columns topped by a triangular pediment reminiscent of classical Greek architecture.

General Anatoliy Gribkov, 68, seemed rather distant and cool at the start of our conversation, also attended by his two aides, but he gradually showed signs of greater friendliness. Above all he stressed repeatedly that the Warsaw Pact does not want war and that its military might is justified.

"It may seem ridiculous to you for me to tell you, as a soldier, that I do not want war and that I am in favor of the elimination of the blocs. However, as soldiers, we must also be prepared to repel any NATO aggression and must not allow it to take us by surprise. I assure you that we have sufficient strength to repel any aggression."

[Liso] General, the NATO countries use the same argument as you to strengthen their military might. Who is telling the truth?

[Gribkov] We provide evidence of what we say. We have decided not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and have withdrawn troops and tanks from Europe, but NATO has still not responded. On the contrary, it is stepping up its military forces in West Europe. therefore the ball is in NATO's court, not ours. Obviously we will never take the step of unilaterally dissolving the Warsaw Pact.

[Liso] From your viewpoint what is the correlation of forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact?

[Gribkov] The correlation is balanced in both human and material resources. Although NATO has advantages in some kinds of weapons, the Warsaw Pact has them in others. We have an advantage over NATO in tanks and tactical and operational missiles. NATO has superiority over us in antitank weapons, combat helicopters, aircraft, and warships. the discrepencies are due to historical and geographical factors, but they compensate for one another and balance out, though NATO tries to portray these differences as an overall superiority on the Warsaw Pact's part.

"Against Us" [subhead]

The deputy commander of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces stressed that a "nuclear free Europe would be preferable to a nuclear Europe" and that they therefore attach great importance to the USSR-U.S. negotiations on the reduction of nuclear missiles. He said, however, that the Americans' and NATO countries' stance on not carrying out fair reduction could impede the attainment of a comprehensive agreement.

According to the general, conventional arms reduction is also crucially important with a view to reaching "a level where neither side has the means to mount a surprise attack or to carry out general offensive operations."

On the subject of Spain, General Gribkov said that our country's entry into the Atlantic Alliance did not surprise him since the Americans had had their bases at Torrejon and Rota for many years. "It is an additional participation," he added, "since obviously the F-16 aircraft at Torrejon or the submarines at Rota are ranged against us."

[Liso] General, even if it did not surprise you, what does Spain's entry into NATO mean for the Warsaw Pact?

[Gribkov] Spain itself poses no threat to the Warsaw Pact but it does participate in the creation of such a threat by allying with other states. Its armed forces are a significant complement to NATO political leaderships plan to use Spanish territory to stockpile American nuclear weapons and it is wished to adapt Spanish territory to the role of a kind of bridge to regions outside NATO's area of responsibility. All this means that Spain's integration into NATO complicates the military strategic situation on the European Continent and in the Mediterranean. We hail Spain's decision to adhere to the nuclear nonproliferation accord as a very important move for the whole of Europe.

Response to United States [subhead]

General Gribkov's office is decorated with fine woods and drapes, with portraits of Lenin, Gorbachev, and new Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov on the walls. At one end of the room is a huge globe and the general is convinced that in the event of a war the world would be destroyed.

According to Gribkov, the greatest danger at present in the arms trace is the U.S. SDI antimissile space defense plan. "We are opposed to SDI," he said, "because it is a bad thing for the entire world. The United States is seeking to deploy a space shield over its country to diminish the other side's retaliatory strike capability, appropriating the right to deliver a nuclear first strike with impunity. Of course the Soviet Union will be able to issue an adequate response to the U.S. actions but SDI would threaten to destabilize the military strategic situation by undermining many accords of vital importance to the cause of peace.

[Liso] Last, General, at the Warsaw Pact meeting in May special emphasis was placed on respect for countries' sovereignty and independence and on noninterference in other states' internal affairs. With such a stance could there be another invasion by pact troops in 1987 such as those of Hungary and Czechoslovakia?

[Gribkov] I do not want to discuss those events of 1956 and 1968, but the two events were connected with the defense of socialism. The troops came at the request of those countries' governments.

QUADRIPARTITE STATEMENT ON SPANDAU ISSUED

LD181848 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] West Berlin August 18 TASS -- The following joint quadri-partite statement has been issued here:

"Following the death of Rudolf Hess, one of the main Nazi criminals who was sentenced to life imprisonment by the international Tribunal in Nuremberg in 1946, the inter-allied Spandau Prison has exhausted its purpose."

"By a decision of representatives of Britain, France the United States, and the Soviet Union, the allied staff of the prison is finally dissolved. The prison building will be pulled down."

WESTERN REPORTS OF VILNIUS PROTEST A 'PROVOCATION'

LD191648 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1524 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Vilnius, 19 Aug (TASS) -- Numerous Western radio reports to the effect that an anti-Soviet demonstration is to take place 23 August in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania leave no doubt that a provocation is being prepared in the West, writes today's issue of the "TIESA" ("PRAVDA") newspaper, which comes out in Vilnius.

The article "How and For Whom Is the Trap Being Laid" draws attention to the fact that Western news media, in pointing out the aim of such a demonstration -- to discredit the decision adopted in 1940 by the Lithuanian people to re-establish Soviet power in Lithuania and to enter into the composition of the USSR -- are enumerating the details of the demonstration in advance and indicating the place of assembly. With this it is as though they are handing over instructions and inciting anti-Soviet elements into actions, as has already been done on more than one occasion with regard to socialist countries and Soviet republics.

Radio stations and newspapers abroad maintain that calls for a demonstration are being made in leaflets being distributed in Vilnius, signed by persons who were once convicted and served time for anti-Soviet activity. Mentioned among them is historian and economist Antanas Terletskas, who returned to Vilnius this year after 3 years of imprisonment and 5 years of exile.

In a conversation with the "TIESA" correspondent the 59-year-old Terletskas denied his involvement with the aforementioned leaflet. "I have not signed anything," he said, at the same time giving assurances that the other people mentioned by Western radio stations and with whom he associates "have neither written nor signed anything of the kind."

The good changes and the process of restructuring and democratization in the Soviet Union, it is noted in Lithuania, are causing anxiety in certain anti-Soviet circles in the West, which are resorting to those kinds of provocations. Dissidents used for this purpose are becoming scarce, as shown by the forgery in the case of Terletskas and others.

UKRAINIAN CC EXAMINES NATIONALITY ISSUES

AU191226 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 15 Aug 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee" -- introductory passage within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] /The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has examined the issue on measures to implement in the republic the directives of the 27th Party Congress and the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum with regard to nationality relations and the intensified internationalist and patriotic education of the working people./

During the discussion on this issue it was noted that the republic's party committees, administrative organs, and public organizations were purposefully working to implement the party's Leninist nationality policy, and to educate the population in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and internationalism, and of irreconcilability to any nationalist manifestations. [paragraph continues]

An atmosphere of friendship among peoples, of euqal rights and confidence, and of respect for the national sentiments of people has become firmly established in the Ukrainian SSR. Measures are being taken to meet the population's social and cultural needs more fully in the sphere of education, culture, belles lettres, art, the mass media, the publication of books, and amateur art. In reinforcing party ranks, in setting up party, administrative, and public organizations, and in promoting cadres, efforts are being made to ensure that all the nations and nationalities living in the republic are represented.

Constant attention is being paid to the development of Ukranian socialist culture. The works of K. Marx and F. Engels, in 50 volumes, and the Complete Collected Works of V.I. Lenin, in 55 volumes, have been issued in the Ukrainian language. "The Ukrainian Soviet Encyclopedia," in 12 volumes, "The History of the Cites and Villages of the Ukrainian SSR, " in 26 volumes, "The History of Ukrainian SSR," in 10 volumes, "The History of Ukrainian Literature" in 8 volumes, classic works of Ukrainian literature and of fraternal literatures of the USSR peoples, and works by contemporary Soviet authors have been published in the Ukrainian and Russian languages. Work has begun to prepare "A Code of Historical and Cultural Monuments of the Ukrainian SSR." Convincing evidence of the development of the Ukrainian language and its growing social role was the publication in Ukrainian of such multi-volume fundamental works as "The Present Ukrainian Literary Language," "A Dictionary of the Ukrainian Language," "A Dictionary of the Old Ukrainian Language," and others.

At the same time in the relations among nationalities problems arise that call for a close and systematic examination, for a timely and well-thought-out reaction on an internationlist basis, and for measures to be taken as necessary. Not all labor collectives have paid proper attention to the education of people in the spirit of each toiler's high responsibility for accomplishing the tasks of accelerating our country's socioeconomic development and for the strict observance of obligations contracted with regard to fraternal republics, and there are shortcomings in the training of cadres for these republics, in organizing sponsorship relations, and in exchanging experience. Such negative phenomena are bureaucratism, abuse of official status, and violations of the principle of social justice, which freed parochialism and petty bourgeois nationality psychology, are not being overcome firmly enough.

The public has recently raised a number of problems concerning nationality and culture. These problems have been posed in some publications and speeches, and in letters addressed to the CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committees, to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium, and to editorial boards of newspapers, journals, television, and radio. In particular, attention has been called to the narrowing sphere in which the Ukrainian language may be used, to the sinking level of teaching in this language and of learning it, to the violation of the language status of Ukrainian theaters, and to the fall in the number of motion pictures circulated in Ukrainian. The needs experienced by some nationalities in the field of the language still have not been fully met.

As noted in the decision adopted by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, a number of party organizations still have not overcome in their work a formal approach to the organization of patriotic and internationalist education. Many party, administrative, trade union, Komsomol functionaries, ideological aktivists, and economic leaders have not rid themselves of the idea that the nationality processes pose no problems; they frequently avoid answering the working people's questions and explaining in a well-substantiated manner the essence and achievements of the party's nationality policy. Scientific research works do not clearly show new trends and phenomena in nationality relations, and do not make concrete practical recommendations.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has commissioned party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, the Ukrainian Trade Union Council, Komsomol Central Committee, and the appropriate ministries and departments to carefully examine the state of nationality relations and of the internationalist and patriotic education of the population in light of the directives of the 27th Party Congress and the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, and in light of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo's recommendations expounded in the decision on the work of the Kazakh republic party organization, and instructed them to take practical steps to improve this work in all labor collectives and educational institutions; to intensify the education of the population in the spirit of friendship among the peoples of the USSR, in the spirit of high responsibility for accomplishing nationwide tasks and increasing the republic's share in the country's integrated national economic complex; and to ensure a worthy welcome for the 70th anniversary of Great October and of Soviet rule in the Ukraine, and the 65th anniversary of the founding of the USSR.

The Central Committee has approved a wide range of measures aimed at intensifying the propaganda of the Leninist nationality policy, at perfecting relations among nationalities and the patriotic and internationalist education of the population, at improvements in the study of the Ukrainian, Russian, and other languages of the USSR peoples, and at meeting to a fuller extent the spiritual and other needs of the population with an eye to its nationality structure. Practical steps have been taken to eliminate the shortcomings in this work.

In particular, in addition to providing the necessary conditions for the thorough study of the Russian language as a means of international communication, plans have been made to take a number of steps to raise the level of teaching in the Ukrainian language and of learning this language in the secondary and the high school. The republic's Ministries of Education and of Higher and Secondary Special Education have been instructed to improve the training of teachers of the Ukrainian language and literature; to perfect the curricula for these subjects; to expand the network of schools (or classes) for the extended study of the Ukrainian language and literature; to create, with the assistance of experienced teachers and writers, teaching and methodological aids (a textbook, a reader, aids for teachers, dictionaries, reference books) for schools teaching in Ukrainian; to make provisions for native language and literature festivals; and to familiarize children attending preschool establishments which teach and educate in Russian with the works of Ukrainian folklore, belles lettres, and fine arts.

The appropriate ministries and departments have been requested to provide schools and preschool establishments with sets of records and tapes teaching the standard and colloquial Ukrainian and the Russian languages, and to assist teaching collectives with video and cartoon films.

The need has been emphasized to cultivate the language used in the work of administrative organs, and to observe the principle of local [natsionalnoye] and Russian bilingualism both standard and colloquial, in public events, office work, visual agitation, television and radio broadcasting, advertising, and information.

Measures to strengthen the material base for the internationalist and patriotic education of the population have been outlined. In particular, provisions have been made to create in the October Palace of Culture in Kiev a republic-level cultural, educational, and methodological center, the "Druzhba"; to open a specialized book store, the "Druzhba Narodov"; to launch a sociopolitical, literary, and art journal, the SUZIRYA; to increase the publication of books and motion pictures with an eye to the national and cultural needs of the population; and to replenish libraries with books in native languages. [paragraph continues]

Instructions have been given to work out programs for promoting traditional folk arts and crafts, for restoring and utilizing historical and cultural monuments, and for perfecting the art of translation.

To raise the standards of political culture and to more fully meet the sociocultural needs of non-native ethnic groups of the population, measures have been provided to intensify the entire educational activity, and to expand the training of public education and culture cadres for the areas in which the aforesaid groups live. Instructions have been given that long-term cultural and educational programs be worked out which provide for the study of native languages, book publishing, the creation of ethnic art collectives, for film shows in native languages, for more frequent concert tours taking into account the ethnic group settlements, and for promoting progressive national traditions and customs.

Provisions have been made to improve cooperation with publishing houses in union republics and the socialist countries in the joint publication of textbooks and methodological aids in the languages of non-native ethnic groups living in the Ukrainian SSR, and in providing the population with books through the "Druzhba" network of book stores.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee requires party committees, administrative organs, and ideological organizations to ensure highly interesting and systematic propaganda on topics involving the nationality policy pursued by the CPSU and the Soviet state, on the ideas of friendship among the peoples of the USSR, and on Soviet patriotism and internationalism; to deal with all problems arising in the sphere of relations among nationalities in time and in the spirit of glasnost and of adherence to principle; and in doing this, to adequately rebuff any manifestations of bourgeois nationalism and chauvinism, of national narrow-mindedness and isolationism, and attempts to interpret the events of the past and the role of individual historical personalities from nonclass positions.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee departments, party committees within their respective ministries and departments, and party organizations in creative unions have been instructed to pay constant attention to the ideological, class, and internationalist stance of writers, journalists, composers, painters, architects, stage and screen workers; to enhance their civic spirit and creative activity; to systematically inform them about topics concerning society's political and socioeconomic development and the implementation of the principles of the Leninist nationality policy in the republic; and to enhance an exacting and comradely atmosphere in evaluating phenomena and facts which occur in the literary and art process.

It has been found necessary to deepen counterpropaganda work aimed at unmasking subversive acts by Ukrainian bourgeois nationalist, Zionist, and clerical centers profiteering in problems inherent in relations among nationalities and trying to sow discord among the people of our country.

The Presidium of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, the republic's Ministries of Higher and Secondary Special Education and of Education have been requested to work out a long-term comprehensive plan for research into questions concerning relations among nationalities, as well as internationalist and patriotic education.

RAYKOM LEADER INTERVIEWED ON NEW-STYLE ELECTIONS

PM130909 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Aug 87 Second Edition p 3

[Interview with M.I. Tolstov, first secretary of Yaroslavl Oblast's Gavrilov-Yamskiy Raykom, by own correspondent P. Nikitin: "Creative Democracy. This Is the Conclusion Drawn by a Raykom First Secretary" -- no date of interview given, first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] Yaroslavl -- "It is common knowledge that this year's elections in a whole series of the country's rayons were experimentally held in a new fashion, with several candidates contesting one seat. I am convinced that top officials will have been 'dumped' in all these rayons...

"A. Anisimov, Yaroslavl"

My conversation with M.I. Tolstov, first secretary of Yaroslavl Oblast's Gavrilov-Yamskiy Raykom, began with these questions:

[Nikitin] Is the reader with such categorically held views correct in this instance? What did the elections in your multiple candidacy okrug show?

[Tolstov] None of the rayon's top leaders, including myself, was "dumped" by the voters, though I must admit the competition was quite heated. One in three candidates for the rayon soviet for which I stood was "dropped."

I can anticipate people's doubts -- Surely some of the bosses were "dumped"? Indeed. Eight economic leaders failed to get through as elected deputies. Two of them in the rayon soviet, three in the city soviet, two in settlement soviets, and one in a rural soviet. They represent 6 percent of the total number of leaders who ran for election.

Those who had failed to gain people's trust, did not display initiative, had a formal attitude toward their assigned work, or disregarded people's needs and interests were rejected. In particular, A. Lepenina, chief of the Rayon Consumer Services Administration, was not elected as deputy. This was no accident: In many respects, the rayon's consumer services operate in the old style, pursuing "gross indicators" and developing primarily costly services to the detriment of social needs. People report that they have to chase all over the rayon for trivial services worth a few kopeks, and at times still fail to obtain them. And this is how the voters "responded" to such attitudes toward them, proving yet again that it is no use relying on titles and official position under the new conditions.

But I have no intention of overdramatizing the "failure" of Angelina Lepenina and other leaders. This is, for me, a perfectly healthy fact: The people have corrected us, pointing out the sore spots. I see nothing bad in this. Nor do I intend to draw distinctions between leaders and "rank and file" deputies, as your reader does. Only 29 percent of the workers, kolkhoz members, and employees who ran for the rayon soviet gained the required number of votes. It appears that many of those "below" perceive a deputy's mandate as nothing but an honorary role and remain satisfied with playing the part of passive observers in the soviets, and the voters treated them with greater demandingness.

The statistics of the last elections show us the need to fundamentally restructure the soviets' work. How are we to enhance their role and prestige and strengthen democratic principles in the rayon's life? Our main hope rests, of course, with people. I am convinced that those who have gotten through the electoral selection sieve will work in a new fashion — energetically and persistently. But I would also like to warm both myself and others: It is certainly impossible to rely on any sort of automatism.

[Nikitin] It would seem that the elections in the new fashion also demanded a reexamination of long-established and seemingly immutable rules. To what extent did party and soviet officials prove ready for this?

[Tolstov] A serious question. We are all, to some extent, bearers of yesterday's political standards. No sooner had the election campaign started than harsh expressions of opinions, lectures, and criticism began pouring from the presidiums... Fearful of the experiment's future, we were even forced to suspend the election campaign for a week. I must note, by the way, that the oblast leadership showed understanding of our decision. This is extremely typical in my view — the habit of a casual attitude toward life and the fear of admitting that not everything is working out as it should are receding into the past.

We made full use of the break. Raykom secretaries and leading rayispolkom and gorispolkom officials traveled to meet the labor collectives. In the course of lively conversations with people we found out what they thought of the election campaign and what shortcomings they perceived, and explained to them that henceforth they are the only ones entitled to nominate candidate deputies and that the time when candidates were selected behind closed doors on the basis of their official records is part of the past. A conference with party organization secretaries was held in the raykom to investigate the mistakes which had been allowed to occur.

Following this "time-out," matters improved considerably. Of course, old habits cannot be discarded within a week. There were some relapses. Stage management of election campaign meetings and pressure from the presidiums explain to a large extent the cases when a candidate was nominated by a meeting and was subsequently "dumped" at the election. Actually, the voters can also be accused of passiveness. People have gotten used to pleasing the bosses, agreeing with them on everything. I recall with distaste the election campaign meeting which nominated me. It was swamped in routine speeches of praise despite the calls for honest and critical analysis.

...More than 1,000 people in the rayon — 1.5 percent of voters — did not cast their vote, thus demonstrating not only social passiveness but also stereotyped thinking. Voters in the past knew that their participation of nonparticipation in the election would have virtually no effect on the outcome. Under the new conditions, when elections are becoming a far from formal event, the value of each and every vote has increased. Some leaders were voted onto the soviet by a margin of only 1-2 votes. Had the "passives" taken part in the election, the fate of some deputies would have been hard to predict.

The most topical task is to conquer people's social apathy and awaken their faith in the irreversible nature of transformations and the possibility of profound changes. To be honest, here we still have more questions than answers.

[Nikitin] On leafing through the statistical return for the okrug, one notices that only four of the eight party workers who ran for the rayon or city soviets were elected, in other words only 50 percent! [paragraph continues]

It appears that, in terms of "weeding out," party officials are on a level with trade and services sphere personnel. At the same time, soviet officials were quite successful in passing through the election "filter." Only two of them were reassigned to the reserves, and only one out of nine ispolkom chairmen was replaced. How is this "deviation" to be explained?

[Tolstov] This is actually the norm rather than a deviation. Very simply, in my opinion, the soviet apparatus displayed a more responsible approach toward the election than the party apparatus. Why? Soviet officials probably reasoned as follows: If I am reassigned to the reserve I will lose my seat and position. It is well known that a party official does not have to be a deputy to perform his duties. Hence the differences in approach. In contrast with previous years, soviet "apparatchiks" engaged in direct contacts with people in the course of the election campaign. for example, Deputy Rayispolkom Chairman N. Troshina did a lot of hard work. She called at blocks and apartments, found out what perturbed people, and solved many questions right there on the spot, without putting them off. She was not greeted with open arms everywhere. In some apartments she encountered downright indifference. Telling me all this, Troshina was worried: How do you reach people like that, what is the key that opens their minds? But the meetings also prompted replies. People in one of the outlying apartment blocks complained that buying medicines is a major problem for them, they have to travel all the way to the city center for their pills. On the deputy's instructions, the Pharmacy Administration assigned a special "mobile pharmacy" to the outlying districts. Thus people felt that someone was showing real attention and concern for them. And this, you must agree, already goes a long way.

But party workers (this applies, of course, primarily to those who were assigned to the "reserve") acted in the old fashion, coming in contact with voters across the presidium table -- and hence the disappointing result.

I must mention that soviets in our region have generally livened up their work recently. Departments regularly report back to labor collectives. I recall, for example, the lively and informal report of the Rayispolkom Cultural Department at the "Zarya Sotsializma" Sovkhoz. Rayispolkom leaders arrange increasingly often to meet citizens directly at the labor collectives and report back to voters in tiny organizations, stock units, or sections, in other words, they go to meet people where they work.

Of course, the course of democratization is not just a matter of observing external procedures. They are just a necessary form which must become a habit everywhere. Socialist democracy needs efficiency and the participation of as many people as possible in the formulation and implementation of decisions as much as we need the air that we breathe (and this was demonstrated to us yet again by the elections). In this respect, as I have already said, we still have many shortcomings. Hitherto we have shown indifference to many of them. The elections were the signal for active restructuring.

[Nikitin] Can it be said that a panacea has been found and that this time, as a result of the experimental elections, people holding bureaucratic views have not found their way into the soviets?...

[Toltov] I would not talk about a panacea. There can probably be no such thing. After all, public opinion is not always infallible, either. But one thing is certain: The latest elections will provide greater guarantees for soviets' purity and efficiency. It is for this purpose that the deputy recall procedure has been simplified. It is no longer necessary, as it was in the past, to hold by-elections since we have the "reserve." [paragraph continues]

Thus the end of the election campaign does not mean an end to competition with regard to deputies' professional and human qualiities. This will stimulate work.

I recall how worried A. Filkov, chairman of the Stavotinskiy Rural Soviet Ispolkom, was about his future as deputy before the election. Looking back at the past, he admitted that he had not fully applied himself to his work and at times had been indifferent — this is what he told the voters without trying to pull any clever tricks. His sincerity with the rural residents paid off. They voted for him. They did not make a mistake. Following the election, the chairman of the rural soviet ispolkom got down to work drastically and energetically. He and another 24 rural soviet deputies decided, in addition to their duties as deputies, to procure 0.5 tonnes of hay (each) in their free time without any remuneration. They are out in the meadows with their scythes from 0300 hours.

Not only Filkov but also many others learned lessons from the last elections, looked at themselves afresh, and applied the strictest exactingness to themselves.

[Nikitin] What do you think: Are there many party and soviet officials who have not accepted the new election system?

[Tolstov] Of course, not everyone likes changes. Primarily bureaucrats and functionaries who ponder in the lobbies the "perniciousness" of self-management and the "danger" of democratization. But I am convinced that the healthy forces are much stronger. I must admit that I have never before seen the raykom and soviet apparatuses working with such enthusiasm and in such a mood as they did during the election campaign. People seemed to have got a second wind. As for the fact that some of them were disappointed in the election results — there is no great harm done. There are plenty of reasons for critical self-analysis, for review of positions and views on life.

As for the "details," the model of the future election system which was tested in our rayon does have its shortcomings. In my view, it is primarily necessary to extend the election campaign period to, for example, 4-5 months. This will enable candidates to better familiarize themselves with the okrug where they are running for election, to find out the population's needs and requirements, and solve some of them even before the election. At the same time, voters would be able to assess candidates' professional and political qualities in order to make the correct choice later.

[Nikitin] Have the elections changed your ideas about democracy?

[Tolstov] The elections convinced me of the need not only to retain but also to expand in every way the prevailing atmosphere of glasnost and openness and to deepen democratic principles. They convinced me that democracy is creative by nature. Democracy — and the multiple candidacy elections proved this yet again — is an implacable enemy of bureaucratism, irresponsibility, demagoguery, and total license. It is not in vain that the CPSU Central Committee appeal to the Soviet people says: "More democracy means more socialism."

PHYSICIANS EXAMINE AIDS IN SOVIET UNION

19 Soviets Infected

OW181131 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 Aug 87

[From the "90 Minutes" program; Natalya Prokofyeva interview with Academician Valentin Ivanovich Pokrovskiy]

[Text] Now we shall continue with the traditional topical interviews. The topic of today's interview has been suggested by your letters. Many people are interested in the AIDS problem. We met Valentin Ivanovich Pokrovskiy, president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, and asked him to tell us about it.

[Begin recording] [Pokrovskiy, speaking in an office to two correspondents] AIDS is spreading now at such a rate that it is simply difficult to follow the new figures that are appearing all the time. The number of AIDS sufferers in the world is now thought to be about 70,000. In addition, there are many infected by the AIDS virus. These people are not sick yet, but are already infected and can themselves be the source of infection. These are exactly the people who represent the greatest danger for us, because they are the main source of the AIDS virus.

[Prokofyeva] Are there any AIDS cases registered in our country, and how many if there are?

[Pokrovskiy] As of today, there are about 130 of those known to infected by the AIDS virus in our country; the overwhelming majority or them are foreigners. There are 19 Soviet citizens among those infected; one of them is an AIDS sufferer. By the way, he has been treated with our Soviet preparations, that is with reoferon and azidotemidin [names as heard] made in our country, and his condition has considerably improved.

[Prokofyeva] Valentin Ivanovich, what are the methods of protection against AIDS, as recommended by Soviet medicine?

[Pokrovskiy] Soviet medicine recommends only general preventive measures against AIDS, that is, measures to ensure a healthy way of living.

[Prokofyeva] And for diagnosis?

[Pokrovskiy] For diagnosis we now have our own Soviet-produced system. Output of diagnostic material is increasing each month, and we are now already conducting a relatively large amount of research. Almost a million — more than 800,000 people have already been examined. [end recording]

By the way, many letters contain the question: Can AIDS be spread by mosquitos and other blood-sucking insects? Scientists are unanimous in their view: No, it cannot. However, let us return to the healthy way of life. The draft guidelines for the development of health protection pays great attention exactly to developing a healthy way of life. A healthy way of life means giving up harmful habits such as using alcohol, smoking — not to speak of narcotics, that is a special problem — and participating in physical culture and sports.

'Vaccine' Developed

LD192218 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Aug 87

["AIDS in the USSR" program presented by Petr Fedorov and correspondent Leonid Lazarevich, with recorded interviews with Academy of Media Sciences President V. Pokrovskiy and L. (Mekler)]

[Text] [Fedorov] Now we will look at a problem which, I think, disturbs and worries many people. What's new in the struggle between medical science and AIDS? Last night the "Vremya" newscast, for example, said that the effects of a new vaccine were being tested on people in the United States. What about our country? What is the total number of people in the world suffering from AIDS? I am putting these questions to correspondent Leonid Lazarevich, he is here with me in the studio and has been looking at these questions for several days now.

[Lazarevich] Well, it's a bit complicated as far as the numbers are concerned. AIDS is spreading at such a rate that it is virtually impossible to keep track of it. It is estimated that at present in the world there are 70,000 people who are ill and their number is constantly growing. There are many more people who are infected and who can be a source of infection. At a recent international conference scientists conjectured that the peak of the worldwide epidemic will come in 1990-1 and then three will be approximately 1 million people who will be sick and more than 10 million infected people.

[Fedorov, interrupting]... The infected being people who are not yet ill but who carry the virus. Well, these are, of course, frightening figures, Leonid. What's the situation in our country?

[Lazarevich] Well, why don't we listen to an authoritative view. I have interviewed Valentin Ivanovich Pokrovskiy, president of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

[Fedorov] Why not?

[Pokrovskiy] To date in our country there are approximately 130 persons known to be infected with the AIDS virus. The overwhelming majority of these are foreigners. There are 19 infected people who are Soviet citizens. One of these is actually ill with AIDS. We have treated him with our domestic preparations and his condition has improved significantly. His temperature has gone down and at present we have ever released him for a while, so that he can take a rest away from the hospital environment. The rest are infected -- including 14 people through a chain from this man who is ill -- while the other persons were found in special tests for high-risk groups. In particular, one citizen was found to be infected in a confidential consulting room; he confessed. It was also in a confidential consulting room that one student from abroad was found to be infected. There are also two women: one in Leningrad -- here the diagnosis has been confirmed without doubt, she most probably got infected from foreigners -- and another woman in Simferopol, there the diagnosis has not been finally confirmed.

[Lazarevich] Valentin Ivanovich, what defenses against AIDS are offered by present-day Soviet medicine?

[Pokrovskiy] Only general preventive measures. These are a healthy way of life, avoidance of casual sexual relations, struggle against sexual perversions, first and foremost homosexuality, and using contraceptives as a method for the prevention of the spread of AIDS.

[Fedorov] Well, these precautionary measures are written about all over the world, but this does not deliver us from the necessity of finding a cure. Leonid, a report in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI that Lazar Borisovich (Mekler) is ready to present as a gift to mankind a formula for an anti-AIDS vaccine and its production process has evoked much response.

[Lazarevich] Well, you know, things aren't completely straightforward here. There was such a declaration. The Academy of Medical Sciences had arranged a meeting between Lazar Borisovich and the director of WHO European office. But Comrade (Mekler) did not turn up at the meeting. He reported that he was ill and I have no basis to doubt it. Well, we have had a story about this on Moscow radio, where we heard that Lazar Borisovich had missed an opportunity to hand over his discovery, if it exists. After that I had a call from Lazar Borisovich. Our conversation lated 106 minutes, we talked twice, well, presumably we can only hear a small part of it.

[Fedorov] Obviously, our entire program only lasts an hour.

[Lazarevich] Hello, Lazar Borisovich.

[(Melker)] Hello, Leonid Pavlovich.

[Lazarevich] MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI has carried your statement that you are ready to make available an anti-AIDS vaccine and its manufacturing process.

[(Melker)] I myself and (Rozaliy Grigoryevich Medvedev), my co-author in all these works, have elaborated a theory on the basis of which it has been possible to solve a number of problems, including the problem of the AIDS virus.

[Lazarevich] [word indistinct]

[(Mekler)] We have worked out a scheme of an anti-AIDS vaccine, and we have already handed over the scheme. It is a long paper: 40 pages. if you would like us to tell about it on the radio we are prepared to read the paper right now.

[Lazarevich] Lazar Borisovich, we have had here the director of the WHO European regional office. Why did you not hand over the vaccine formula to him?

[(Mekler)] One formula as such does not give anything. A multitude of such formulae must be handed over. He has to get not just the formula but everything belonging to it. We invented a vaccine against the foot and mouth disease for the Institute of Bio-Organic Chemistry a year ago. We also conveyed the formula to them over the phone. They synthesized the appropriate part and it worked and provided protection against that disease.

[Lazarevich] Is there is a single scientist in the world who could maintain as confidently as you that your scheme for obtaining vaccine has a high degree of probability of success?

[(Mekler)] I cannot answer that question for you.

[Lazarevich] Lazar Borisovich's articles have been printed in many foreign publications. He is well known. But we cannot decide whether or not there is a formula for an anti-AIDS vaccine. I think that negotiating with Lazar Borisovich is not all that easy.

His suggestions are not always proper, like, for example, the one to read a 40-page paper out over the air; he permits himself sharp expressions. But I cannot help thinking that mankind could lose a great deal if this vaccine, its formula, already exist in principle.

[Fedorov] Indeed, Leonid. I think that as never before we need an authoritative conclusion about Comrade (Mekler's) work, despite all complications.

'Potentially Major Problem'

AU111247 Paris AFP in English 1233 GMT 11 Aug 87

[Text] Geneva, Aug 11 (AFP) -- AIDS has become a "potentially major problem" for the Soviet Union, even though only four cases of the disease have been reported there, a senior official of the World Health Organization said here Tuesday. But Dr. Jonathan Mann, who is in charge of research into Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, said he had "received the assurance" from Yevgeniy Chazov, the Soviet Health Minister, that foreign businessmen and tourists would not have to submit to AIDS tests in the country.

Returning from a four-day trip to the Soviet Union, Dr. Mann said at a press conference that Soviet authorities had decided against isolating AIDS victims from society, and to let them "continue to live with their family and to work." "It is a model we would like to see everywhere," Dr. Mann said.

In the Soviet Union, he said, there were around a hundred foreign carriers of the AIDS virus, most of them African students. Some of these have returned home, and talks are underway to allow others to finish their university courses, Dr. Mann added.

Dr. Mann went on to provide the latest worldwide statistics on the number of AIDS victims. He said 56,395 cases of AIDS had been reported in 122 countries as of Tuesday, 99 more than the previous figure released last July 29, but that these figures merely provided a partial view of the problem, as real figures stood at double the reported number. The Soviet Union has reported to the WHO four cases of the disease.

Dr. Mann also announced that WHO would hold regional meetings on AIDS in Quito, September 14-15 and in Kuwait September 20 and 21.

OPERATION DESTROYS UZBEK DRUG PLANTATIONS

PM191035 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 18 Aug 87 p 4

[TASS correspondent I. Mudarisov report under rubric "Tailpiece": "Operation 'Black Poppy'"]

[Text] Tashkent -- The large-scale Operation "Black Poppy" has been under way in Uzbekistan for 3 months. Its aim is to locate and destroy illegal drug crops and deal a serious blow to the drug trade and drug abuse. Thousands of people's controllers, members of the volunteer people's militia, health workers, and agro-industrial workers have been involved in the operation together with members of the militia.

...The visit by the militia to the home of A. Kadirov, an inhabitant of Tashkent Oblast, was very unexpected. Kadirov himself was not at home and his wife and relatives assured the militia that they knew absolutely nothing about any drugs. A search of the house and utility buildings produced nothing. Only in the yard did they find clumps of wild hemp. Militia Captain S. Kopenkin, republic MVD senior agent, quickly cut down the green stalks, handling his hoe like a true peasant. He then gathered the "harvest" into a pile, poured gasoline on it, and set it alight.

"This is also part of our work," Sergey said, mopping his brow. "We not only have to find illegal crops, we also have to destroy them. The wild hemp will ripen in a few days, then hashish can easily be manufactured from it; one gram of this sells for R2-3 on the 'black' market."

The search was continued. The militia's attention was drawn by the attic of one of the outhouses, as it was filled to the ceiling with empty boxes. They found a considerable quantity of koknar -- made from the heads of opium poppies -- beneath these boxes. The occupants of the house are now under investigation.

This is one of many commonplace episodes in the operation. A considerable amount of equipment has been used to conduct it successfully: helicopters and aircraft, hundreds of motor vehicles and motorcycles, equipment for aerial photography and chemical analysis, and radio transmitters.

When work began seriously in the fight against drug addiction, many sowers of drug crops changed their tactics and began to plant opium poppies in inaccessible mountain regions. Finding the crops is a problem. Aircraft and television cameras have come to our assistance. With their help, 50 plots of opium poppies covering an area of 9 hectares were detected in a mountain region in Surkhan-Darya Oblast. Those responsible for cultivating the crops -- tractor driver Kh. Nurmanov and V. Kayumov -- were soon arrested.

Special subdivisions have had the difficult task of keeping watch around the clock at railroad stations, at airports, and on main highways to stop the transportation of drugs. An extra 300 State Automobile Inspectorate posts have been created for the duration of the operation.

A taxi was stopped at one of these posts when leaving the city of Akkurgan at 0100 hours. Militia Sergeant A. Tulyabayev noticed the strange behaviour of the passenger, who was tightly clutching a large box. They found 15 kg of koknar inside. The owner, R. Betmeyev, who lives in Angren, has been sentenced by a people's court to 3 years' imprisonment for transporting drugs.

More than 2,000 illegal drug plantations covering an area of 50 hectares have been located and destroyed in the republic during Operation "Black Poppy" and half a tonne of drugs and more than 700 kg of raw material for their manufacture have been confiscated from the criminals. Hundreds of drug addicts have been detected and registered and hundreds of people involved in the manufacture or sale of drugs have been charged. The operation is now over but the fight against drugs continues.

SOUTH CRIMEA COAST CLOSED TO MOTOR TOURISTS

PM200933 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 2

[A. Kirillov report under "We Report the Details" rubric: "Against Whom Has the Crimea Been Closed?"]

[Text] They are talking about it everywhere. Some maintain that the Crimea has been closed in connection with a mass epidemic, others think that the consequences of last year's tragedy at Chernobyl are making themselves felt. What has really happened? We telephoned T. Krasikova, deputy chairman of the Crimea Oblispolkom, in Simferopol:

"First of all, it has been decided to ban entry to the southern shore of the Black Sea only to motor tourists," said Tatyana Aleksandrovna. "Second, last year's events have had an effect but only insofar as many of the people who wanted to have a vacation by the sea then decided to postpone it until this year. As a result there has been a massive influx of vacationists. This has never happened before in our experience. Now, according to every rough calculations, there are nearly 820,000 'unorganized' vacationists in Crimean Oblast. That is without counting those who arrived with travel vouchers. For the sake of comparison, I will say that as of 1 August last year we had taken in 100,000 fewer people.

"Public catering and tourist services are not able to cope with the huge workload. Parking lots, motels, and camping sites are overflowing. A real threat has been created of a deterioration in the sanitary and ecological state in the oblast. In this connection a decision was adopted to create an emergency antiepidemic commission, which I was given the task of heading."

[Kirillov] Is there cause for real alarm today?

[Krasikova] The epidemic situation in the oblast is monitored constantly. There has been no notification of mass outbreaks of disease.

[Kirillov] But many people are flying down to the sea and are traveling down by train. Shouldn't they be sent back?

[Krasikova] The restrictions, I repeat, are only in force for the owners of vehicles registered out of town. Moreover, if you have driven down to vacation with relatives, after the relevant checks you will be allowed to continue your journey. We are also making exceptions for war veterans, Heroes of the Soviet Union, and Heroes of Socialist Labor. And furthermore: The ban is not in force over the entire territory of the oblast. Chernomorskiy, Leninskiy, and certain other rayons remain open for motor tourists.

In organizing mass vacations we have long headed toward such traditional places as Yalta, Alushta, and Evpatoriya. And see what is happening there today: There's no room to swing a cat! At the same time other regions, for instance the Crimea of the steppe, are not fully loaded.

[Kirillov] But people are traveling down there today..."

[Krasikova] Of course it is difficult to resolve a problem definitively in such a short time. Local health resort services have been ordered to expand the network of rented apartments and to carefully monitor their sanitary conditions.

[Kirillov] Many motor tourists who have just completed the 1,000-kilometer journey are now approaching Simferopol. What are they to do?

[Krasikova] Entry to the south coast is closed. But if you have arrived, we are turning no one back. We recommend the relatively free seaside rayons where the situation is normal, as are, moreover, the conditions for a good vacation.

[Kirillov] Are the present restrictions a temporary measure?

[Krasikova] The ban on motor tourists will probably last until 1 September.

BRIEFS

MOSCOW-LENINGRAD VIDEO LINE -- A video communication line [videosvyaz] has been set up between Leningrad and Moscow. Today at the inter-city telephone office the first videotelephone sessions have been conducted. In contrast with existing technology in the field the innovation has a number of advantages. First and foremost, communication takes place through ordinary telephone wires: this raises its reliability. There is also another advantage: communication experts propose that the new technology is used not only for individual contacts but also for conducting inter-city conferences and business meetings. The apparatus is also able to read, receive and transmit diagrams, photographs and documents. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 17 Aug 87 LD]

LOBNYA PLANT WORKERS DEBATE STATE ACCEPTANCE

PM181405 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Aug 87 p 1

[D. Tsilyurik article under rubric "State Acceptance Examined": "But the Plant Was Said To Be a Leading Plant..."]

[Text] Lobnya, Moscow Oblast -- "But what specifically have we gained from them?" V. Zavyalovv, pattern maker at the Lobnya "Stroyfarfor" plant, said nodding his head in the direction of the state acceptance representatives sitting in the front rows. "They are parasites of the state, aren't they? They are useless!"

These words provoked an outburst of emotion in the room. Although the general meeting of "Stroyfarfor" workers and specialists, which had now lasted for 2 hours, had been totally different from the serene meetings of the recent past, this speech particularly brought the atmosphere to fever pitch. The discussion proceeded very disagreeably -- following the introduction of state acceptance, the successful enterprise had not been able to cope with the plan and was suffering great losses. For 6 months now, the Lobnya workers had been trying to elucidate what exactly was preventing them from restoring their former positions. So far, they had not reached a unanimous opinion....

Calm was restored only with difficulty. The last words were greeted with clapping, an approving hum, and indignant exclamations. Everybody was affected by the pattern maker's speech, and many wanted to express their own opinion.

"It seems to me, comrades," the loud voice of P. Nagin, electric loader driver, drowned the noise and forced people to listen to his words, "that Valentin Alekseyevich apparently is confusing production interests with his own interests. Well, production interests have gained from state acceptance, while your own interests have lost out, because you are a shoddy worker.... Isn't it shameful that your products are rejected?"

This speech was greeted just as stormily. Chief plant engineer B. Ivanov, leading the meeting, restored calm with difficulty.

"But be more specific, comrades, I beg you, be more specific. What complaints do you have against state acceptances?"

Voices could be heard from the hall:

"They prevent us from working...."

"They complain about trivial things...."

"But let's be fair," the chief engineer interrupted. "You yourselves nominated the candidate for state acceptance leader. You know very well that Anna Vladimirovna Kalosha grew up at the plant and over many years went from simple worker to senior shop foreman. She is just as concerned about the honor of the enterprise as you are."

"Shame on you, comrades," the state acceptance leader observed after a minute's pause. "After all, we are working together. We do not require anything totally new from you, just the observance of technology all along the chain."

It is no secret that until recently the demands of technology have been treated with excessive freedom at the plant.

"Do you want me to tell you why state acceptance has been a catastrophe for you?" Anna Vladimirovna asked at the meeting. "Indeed, it is very simple. You were spoiled by the shortages! Sanitary engineering items, of course! They were snatched up. After all, it was all the same to the builders what they installed. It was the tenants who suffered. You profited from this...."

"That's right. But it is still not all," V. Pavlova, leader of a team of glazers, stood up. "The most important thing was more products, what kind of product was not important. Now, it is a different matter. Everybody seems to be trying but not everything is working out. Even the plan is not succeeding for us."

A serious discussion also took place on the difficult phases and problems of the plant. It had been proposed, for example, to regularly stop the tunnel kilos for capital repair, but for more than 25 years now the equipment had not been stopped for more than 10 days.

"But it is strange," the team leader continued. "Did our leaders really not know anything before, were they really ignorant? After all, they made the products somehow or other, and everybody was satisfied. It was calm and peaceful. But what about remodeling? Why have they not troubled themselves? Where are our engineers and technicians? Where is the new equipment?"

The chief engineer frowned. Who, if not he, was responsible for technical progress at the enterprise? And so, he began to justify.

"Every year, we ask G. Dryagin, chief of our association 'Rosstroykeramika' to stop the old capacities for capital repair. He has not permitted it.... But next year, we will finish building a new shop, then we will relieve the old production and really get down to repairing it."

"I probably do not understand something," foundry worker L. Salomatina said. "After all, the country needs only sound products. So why don't we create the conditions to produce them?"

This question affected everybody. Apparently, the association firmly believed that the transfer to state acceptance by the Lobnya plant, which repeatedly had gained prize places in the competition among allied enterprises in the RSFSR, would proceed without any hitches. For that reason, they did not envisage remodeling. For that reason too, the plan remained without changes -- as it was 40 percent of first-class products, so it remained. Today, however, the plant produces only 3.5 percent of such products. These consequences are the result of overconfidence.

WEATHER-CROP STATUS REPORTED THROUGH 10 AUGUST

PM181251 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Aug 87 p 2

["Weather and crops" by agricultural metereologist L. Platonova]

[Text] Cool weather has persisted over most of the European sector of the USSR and, over the last few days, cool weather with heavy showers. In the first 10-day period of August, the air temperature was 2-4 degrees lower than the perennial average and reached 13-18 degrees.

Because of heavy rains (30-60mm and in places up to 140mm), many fields in the North, Northwest, and Baltic Regions, and in the northern area of the Central Economic Region and Belorussia are oversaturated. The rainstorms were accompanied by gusty winds, which led to an increase in lodged crops. This weather delayed the ripening of grain crops, flax seeds, and heat-loving vegetables; the growth of root and tuber crops; and harvesting work. The northern limit of waxy ripeness of early spring grain crops moved to the north, and passes approximately along a line connecting Riga, Moscow, Kirov, and Sverdlovsk.

Moderately warm weather has prevailed in the southeast of the Ukraine and the Central Chernozem region, in the North Caucasus, the Volga Region (to the south of Kuybyshev), and in the Urals. Conditions for harvesting agricultural crops were good there.

It was warm and primarily dry in the agricultural regions of West Siberia and in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan. The average air temperature for the 10-day period exceeded the perennial mean by 2-5 degrees. Substantial rain fell in the north of the Tyumen, Omsk, and Novosibirsk Oblasts, and also in Tomsk and Kemerovo Oblasts, and in individual regions of Altay Kray, Kokchetav, North Kazakhstan, and Kustanay Oblasts. Little precipitation occurred on the remaining territory. Grain swelling is coming to an end on early grain crops. Early sown crops have already reached the waxy ripeness stage. In Uralsk and Aktyubinsk Oblasts, early spring grain crops have ripened.

Moderately warm weather with rains has been observed in most regions of Eastern Siberia. Conditions were favorable for harvesting early spring grain crops. However, their development in most regions continues to lag behind the normal periods. In the greater part of the agricultural zone, spring wheat, barley, and oats have reached the milky ripeness stage. Conditions for the growth and development of heat-lov' g crops have improved.

In Central Asia and in the south of Kazakhstan, the formation and growth of bolls continued on cotton plants in favorable conditions: on average 3-5 and in the south of Central Asia 6-9 have formed on each plant. Recently, 1-2 weeks later than the mean perennial periods, the first cotton bolls have begun to make an appearance in the south of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikstan. The harvest is being gathered in Azerbaijan. There were recently 12 bolls per plant on average there.

VORONEZH OBLAST COMPLETES GRAIN HARVEST

PM191511 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Aug 87 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Yesterday: Events and Facts" rubric: "Voronezh Grain Growers Complete Harvest"]

[Text] We received good news yesterday from Voronezh. The farmers in that Chernozem Oblast have worked wonderfully well despite this year's difficult weather conditions.

Voronezh farmers have harvested their crop ahead of everyone else in the RSFSR. They have delivered 1.251 million tonnes of grain to the granaries. In so doing they have exceeded almost by a factor of two the target for sales of strong and other valuable strains of wheat. The targets for peas have also been met for the first time in many years.

The switch to intensive grain production and the introduction of the team contract and economic accountability have helped achieved this success.

All this has made it possible to harvest an average of 24 quintals of grain per hectare.

GOSKOMSTAT REPORTS HARVESTING PROGRESS

LD192151 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2147 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] According to a report by the USSR Goskomstat [State Statistics Committee], grain and pulse crops have been reaped from almost 51 million hectares of fields in the country, which is 47 percent of the sown area. They have been threshed on more the 43 million hectares. Despite the rain in many places the harvest is excellent, especially in the fields where there has been intensive farming. In Poltava Oblast, for example, 60-70 quintals of wheat are being obtained per hectare in many of the fields. The threshing machine operators in a number of rayons in Khmelnitskiy Oblast are threshing 40-48 quintals per hectare on average. The farmers of the Voronezh and Lipetsk Oblasts, as well as the farms of Karachayevo-Cherkesse Autonomous Oblast have already fulfilled their plan for sales of grain to the state. The fodder stocks for livestock breeding are being swelled. Some 66.4 million tonnes of hay have been procured, more hay and haylage than at this time last year.

MEAT, MILK PRODUCTION INCREASES REPORTED

LD190911 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0225 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 18 Aug (TASS) — The measures being taken in the USSR to develop animal husbandry are yielding the first results. Over 7 months of this year production of meat has increased by 6 percent relative to the same period last year. Farms have produced approximately 11.5 million tonnes according to the data of the USSR State Committee on Statistics.

Production of milk went up by 2 percent: more than 50 million tonnes were produced over the 7 months. The increase has been ensured not by a growth in the numbers of cattle, but by greater yields.

The average milk yield per cow is the highest in the Baltic republics, where dairy husbandry is developed as part of a local tradition: between 2,200 and 2,500 kg per cow over the past 7 months.

CSA REPORTS IMPROVED FOOD SUPPLY IN KAZAKHSTAN

LD190919 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2252 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Alma-Ata, 18 Aug (TASS) -- Supplies of foodstuffs to the population are being considerably improved in Kazakhstan. According to a report issued today by the Central Statistical Administration, the quantity of meat and processed meat sold to the inhabitants to this republic over the past 7 months is just over 27 percent greater than in the same period last year. The marketing of butter, milk, and dairy produce has increased by 12 percent.

"The main reason why it was possible to attain these changes was that kolkhozes increased their output", a TASS correspondent was told by Erik Gukasov, first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers. "The farms began to pay a considerable number of livestock breeders on the based on final results".

The government of the republic also took another important step by increasing substantially the number of cattle kept for individual use. Excess quantities of meat and milk were produced, many countryside inhabitants feel. This took place quite quickly after the government step. They supply this produce to the state at mutually advantageous prices.

MEDIA COVERS 16-17 AUGUST AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD190222 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 16, 17 August. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

16 August

Farms in Alekseyevskiy and Prokhorovskiy rayons were the first in Belgorod Oblast to fulfill the plan for the sale of grain from the new harvest to the state and to start additional marketing. The quality of the grain is high. (0100)

Uzbekistan produced over 70,000 tonnes of vegetables last week. Tashkent Oblast is making up for lost time and has produced over 200,000 tonnes of vegetables, which is more than had been produced by mid-August 1986. However, the vegetable harvest is proceeding slowly in Samarkand Oblast. This may lead to considerable losses. (0600)

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Tambov Oblast agro-industrial complex have by today poured 500,000 tonnes of grain into state granaries, thus fulfilling more than half of plan for grain sales. The cutting of eared grain crops is also nearing completion; such work has already been conducted on almost 1 million hectares. (1100)

Spring crops have been reaped on 500,000 hectares in Kurgan Oblast, which is approximately 30 percent of the area to be harvested. (1100)

Orenburg Oblast grain growers are completing harvesting on the first half of the grain area. (Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1430)

In the Kuban this summer, frequent rain, heavy rainstorms, and high winds have twisted and flattened the wheat. In addition, dew falls early in the evening and lingers late in the morning, all of which holds up field work. Even experienced machine operators are having difficulty in managing to thresh 3 or 4 hectares per day. However, teams using the new Dom-1500 combines, which are particularly effective in cutting flattened wheat, are harvesting 20-22 hectares per day. They have obtained more than 50 quintals per hectare. Harvesting is also underway now in Komsomolskiy Rayon, Kustanay Oblast, where winter wheat has been sown for the past 4 years. The harvest is also underway in the eastern part of the country. The work must be carried on day and night, in two shifts. People must be summoned from construction sites, farm offices, and enterprises to drive the machinery. (Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1430)

17 August

The 500,000th tonne of grain has been delivered to state granaries in Ryazan Oblast. (0204)

Mordovian grain producers are fulfilling their main pledge to the state. More than 200,000 tonnes of grain have arrived at the grain-receiving enterprises of the republic, which comprises two thirds of the annual plan. (1100)

Farms of Saratov Oblast have started the sowing of winter crops. One million hectares in all will be sown to winter crops. (1100)

Farms of the Non-Chernozem Zone in the Mari SSR have prepared over 70 percent of hay reserves toward the plan. (1100)

Dzhambul Oblast grain growers have coped with the targets for sales of grain to the state. With a target of 393,000 tonnes, they gave the state 750,000 tonnes of grain. Harvesting in the oblast has ended, with yields of 22.5 quintals per hectare. Grain is still arriving at procurement enterprises. Rural workers intend to fulfill two annual plans. (1330)

'COSMOS-1872' SATELLITE LAUNCHED 19 AUGUST

LD191210 Moscow TASS in English 1207 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 19 TASS — The Soviet Union today launched an earth satellite of the Cosmos series. Cosmos-1872 is carrying scientific equipment for continuing the exploration of outer space.

The satellite has been put into the orbit with the following parameters:

The initial period of revolution — 89.6 minutes,
maximum distance from the earth's surface — 333 kilometres,
minimum distance from the earth's surface — 208 kilometres,
inclination of the orbit — 72.9 degrees.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS CONTINUE ON 'MIR'

LD182240 Moscow TASS in English 2212 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 18 TASS — TASS correspondent reports from the mission control centre:

The commander of the orbital complex Mir, Yuriy Romanenko, has been 193 days in outer space by now, while flight engineer Aleksandr Alexandrov is finishing his fourth week.

Much space in the flight programme is given to astrophysical observations, carried out with the help of the orbital international observatory Roentgen. Several observations of different stellar systems are held every day, in particular, research continued into the Roentgen pulsar in the Hercules constellation.

On August 13, the instruments of the observatory registered a powerful burst of gamma radiation, which originated in space.

Today the Cygnus constellation was chosen for observations while on August 19-21 the Roentgen telescopes will be aimed at the supernova in the Large Magellanic Cloud.

In conducting astrophysical experiments, the highly precise orientation of the orbital complex and its stabilisation during a long period of time are ensured by power gyroscopic stabilisers on the Kvant module. The crew uses instruments to control the preset regime and, if need be, to make adjustments to the on-board computer.

According to the cosmonauts and telemetric information, all systems of the Mir scientific research complex are functioning normally.

The work on the orbit continues.

AIR FORCE MAIN STAFF CHIEF PANKIN INTERVIEWED

PM190951 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 6

[V. Belikov interview with Colonel General of Aviation V. Ye. Pankin, chief of the Air Force Main Staff, under the heading "Wing to Wing" and the rubric "16 August Is USSR Air Force Day" -- first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] There is a glorious history to this day of aircraft builders, fighter pilots, and aerial sportsmen. It goes back to 1 May 1918, when a slow-moving biplane appeared in Moscow above the columns decked in red calico. "The aircraft circled like a huge bird, spreading its wings above Red Square," IZVESTIYA observed at the time. "It scattered leaflets." V. I. Lenin was among those who followed its flight....

Colonel General of Aviation V. Ye. Pankin, chief of the Air Force Main Staff, talked about how military pilots perform their combat duty today in a conversation with our IZVESTIYA correspondent.

[Belikov] Combat aircraft are linked with the concept of the "air force complex," What does that mean?

[Pankin] The "air force complex" owes its origin to the development and sophistication of military skills and to scientific and technical progress. It is the unity between the highly skilled specialist, combat equipment, air and land communication systems, and back-up and control. Supersonic, all-weather fighter aircraft form the basis of the air force complex, as well as helicopters and military transport aircraft.

[Belikov] A completely new type of military aircraft was developed recently -- the fighter helicopter. What are its features?

[Pankin] The helicopters' powerful missile and artillery equipment guarantees the destruction of tanks and other armored enemy targets, personnel, and fire points. This has been confirmed in particular by their successful use when giving international assistance to the Afghan people in the fight against counterrevolutionary forces. The helicopters have been used in the DRA for reconnaissance purposes, troop landings, freight transportation, and for locating and evacuating crews and damaged equipment.

[Belikov] What are the qualities of an airborne fighter displayed in fighting by the airmen?

[Pankin] Flying and performing combat operations in the mountains is not easy. The peaks and deep ravines, rarified air, and great heat are considered extreme conditions for any aircraft use. In Afghanistan this is everyday routine. And we have to deal with a cunning enemy making extensive use of the most sophisticated weapons supplied to the dushmans from across the ocean. The sense of duty, mutual assistance, and readiness to perform great deeds are most severely tested.

Thirteen fighter pilots have been awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union for the courage and valor they have displayed in the skies above Afghanistan. Here is just one example. Lieutenant Colonel A.N. Levchenko, military pilot 1st class, heading a group of fighter aircraft, attacked the positions of dushmans who had opened fire on motor vehicle convoys on the road between the USSR and Afghanistan.

His jet-powered MIG-23 was damaged and the lieutenant colonel himself seriously wounded. In an attempt to protect his comrades against enemy fire, the head of the group repeated Captain Gastello's great feat -- he brought down his burning aircraft on the dushman position. A.N. Levchenko was posthumously awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union.

[Belikov] As is the case throughout the country, the restructuring of the activity of military cadres is under way in the Air Force units and subunits and the process of the personnel's training and education is being improved. There is the serious, principled question of eradicating a phenomenon like irregular relations between servicemen when, for example, unit veterans order new recruits about and force them to do what they want -- in violation of strict army regulations. Does this sort of thing happen in the Air Force?

[Pankin] Yes, unfortunately. To a certain extent this is the result of serious flaws in the general organization of educational work with personnel, which is now undergoing substantial changes everywhere.

As a rule, personal shortcomings are detected at an early stage, but parents often set their hopes on the army acting as a cure. Are they right? Military service does, of course, help to shape young people's character. But what was missing in their years at school has a very long-lasting effect, impeding the formation of a disciplined defender of the motherland with a sense of responsibility.

Commanders, political organs, and staffs are taking decisive measures to establish the traditions of comradeship, mutual assistance, and real military fraternity in relations between servicemen.

[Belikov] Many of our cosmonauts are military pilots. What news do you have about them?

[Pankin] Active preparations are now under way at Star City for joint flights with Bulgarian and French cosmonauts next year.

As the Soviet Union is working on the creation of reusable transport space ships, our side is also studying these issues.

AIR FORCE DIRECTORATE CHIEF BATEKHIN INTERVIEWED

PM190901 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Aug 87 First Edition p 2

[Interview with Colonel General of Aviation L. Batekhin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Air Force Political Directorate, by unnamed KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent. "People and the Sky" -- no place or date of interview given; first paragraph is a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Excerpts] On the eve of USSR Air Fleet Day, a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent met Colonel General of Aviation L. Batekhin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Air Force Political Directorate, and asked him to reply to the newspaper's questions. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Leonid Lukich, what effect does scientific and technical progress have today on the development of the Air Force? What constitutes the foundation of its combat might at present?

[Batekhin] Aviation equipment and weapons are undergoing constant improvement and becoming increasingly effective and diverse under the influence of scientific and technical progress.

Operational art, tactical and battle control, electronic and other types of flight backup services, as well as the aviation cadres training system and their moral, political, and psychological training are all improving.

Modern aircraft systems fitted with effective weaponry navigation instruments, and radioelectronic equipment constitute the basis of the Soviet Air Force's might. They are capable of performing a broad range of combat tasks at any time of the day or night, under any weather conditions and at any altitude; engaging in highly mobile air combat; taking successful countermeasures against the enemy's air defense installations; conducting effective airborne reconnaissance; delivering accurate long-range strikes against airborne, ground-based, and naval surface targets using guided firepower; at any point on Earth, providing aviation support for the Ground Forces and the Navy, and performing other tasks using conventional and nuclear weapons either jointly with other branches of the Soviet Armed Forces or independently.

[Correspondent] There is increasing activity in outer space from where an aggressor could deliver a strike, and there are growing numbers of cruise missiles in the world capable of covering long distances at low altitudes. How is this taken into account when organizing the combat training of aviation personnel?

[Batekhin] The emergence of new means to wage armed struggles has set new tasks for our airmen. For example, they are persistently seeking and rehearsing the most effective methods to seek and destroy cruise missiles. They are being trained to destroy airborne targets at any time of the day or night, under fine or complex weather conditions, and at any altitude.

[Correspondent] Work in the air has always demanded great exertion of moral and physical effort. What are the basic demands made on personnel manning the modern aircraft systems? What kind of a man is he, today's military airman?

[Batekhin] Although an aircraft is a flying machine, it does not fly by itself. It is man who flies it, prepares it for flight, and services it. The pilots, navigators, test pilots, engineers and technicians, junior aviation specialists, communications specialists, and aviation rear services specialists constitute the main strength of our Air Force. The growing combat potential and complexity of modern aircraft systems make increasingly high demands on them.

Profound knowledge of weapons and combate equipment and perfect mastery of them are becoming an increasingly decisive factor in the fuller utilization of their combat potential. The amount and nautre of work done by crews in controlling the complex as a whole are undergoing significant changes. The problem of the reliability of man in the "man-aircraft" system becomes increasingly serious. A pilot must maintain high efficiency under conditions of prolonged nervous and physical strain, memorize a large volume of data, and not lose his self-possession under the most complex circumstances.

Substantial changes are also taking place in the work of engineering and technical staff. The growing complexity of aircraft systems and weaponry, the increasingly wide integration of radioelectronic equipment within an integrated weaponry control system, and so forth make higher demands on the professional competence of aviation engineering service specialists and increase the importance of the intellectual aspect of their labor.

The further expansion of the collective nature of servicing aviation equipment increases the importance of social and psychological ties and of the moral atmosphere of trust and mutual assistance.

The contemporary Air Force pilot is an ardent patriot and internationalist, convinced of the correctness of the ideals of communism, a well trained specialist with higher engineering education, a physically developed and courageous person with strong will and fast reactions.

All these qualities, making up the basis of our airmen's moral, political, and combat nature, are shaped by the system of combat and political training, by purposeful party political work, and by the entire tenor of army life.

[Correspondent] Are you satisfied with the progress of restructuring, the overcoming of negative phenomena in matters of combat training, the ensuring of flight safety, and the strengthening of service discipline?

[Batekhin] I must say in all honesty that restructuring in the Air Force is still progressing slowly.

Last year was a period of new quest along all avenues. The results of exercises and control classes convince us that we have taken the right path and there has been a noticeable turnabout. In my view, the main achievement is the fact that the style of cadres' work is now distinguished by greater realism and responsibility in assessing the level of combat readiness, the air, fire, and tactical training of airmen, and flight discipline and safety. Moreover, there is a clearly noticeable trend toward enhanced demandingness.

But the pace of life and the strict party evaluation of the quality of work by military control organs and of the level of the personnel's training and combat readiness demand more energetic solutions to pressing problems and a faster pace of restructuring in people's training and education. Armed with the party's general experience, the military councils, commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations pursue a line of developing the creative activeness of airmen, a line of implacability toward stagnation, complacency, indiscipline, bureaucratism, and irresponsibility. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] For over 40 years now our country has been living in peace. But one often encounters Heroes of the Soviet Union and bearers of combat orders and medals among today's military airmen. Could you say something about the hero-pilots of our time?

[Batekhin] The poet was perfectly correct when he said that brave fathers cannot produce cowardly sons. Having carried on the tradition of the war veterans, whose glorious feats have gone down in the vivid pages of the Air Force's combat annals, today's knights of the fifth ocean are selflessly serving the motherland.

The country is familiar with the names of Heroes of the Soviet Union -- Airmen V. Gaynutdinov, Ye. Zelnyakov, N. Kovalev, V. Kot, V. Kucherenko, A. Levchenko, V. Ochirov, V. Pavlov, V. Pismennyy, P. Ruban, S. Filipchenkov, and V. Shcherbakov; they have been decorated with this high award for bravery and heroism displayed while performing their international duty in the DRA. Major N. Malyshev, deputy commander for political matters of a helicopter squadron, who has made 760 combat flights, was awarded the Gold Star this year.

Surely the heroism, skill, and selfless labor displayed by military airmen in the skies above Chernobyl are also worthy of admiration? The motherland recognized the courgage, lofty personal qualities, and creative initiative of Major General of Aviation N. Antoshkin by awarding him the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star Medal. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA has, by the way, written on many occasions about the test pilots flying Soviet-made aviation equipment. Those who "teach the aircraft to fly" include Heroes of the Soviet Union and Honored Pilots of the USSR Colonels V. Migunov and B. Gruzevich.

Soviet people recently learned about the feat by Air Force pilot Senior Lieutenant A. Salikov. An eagle "attacked" his fighter-bomber, disabled his power unit, and the aircraft started falling in the direction of a shepherd's hut. Risking his life, Salikov succeeded in steering the combat aircraft away and ejected moments before it crashed.

To put it briefly, a pilot's profession demands complete selflessness and at times even genuine heroism, even in peacetime. The Soviet aviation has never experienced a shortage of people prepared to accomplish feats. There are plenty of them also today.